



A Weekly Journal of the Chemical and Drug Trades
and of
British Pharmacists throughout the Empire,
ESTABLISHED 1859.

The CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is the leading journal addressing the chemical and drug trades of the British Empire. It is adopted as an official journal by nineteen Chemists' Societies in Australia, Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa and the West Indies, and its paid-in-advance circulation in Great Britain and all Countries having business relations with the British Empire is intrinsically and numerically unique.

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OVERSEAS BUSINESS.

Our kinsmen in the Colonies and Beyond the Seas buy more and more of our goods every year. Foreign business-houses also find that when they buy articles of British origin they can be depended upon to sell readily, to realise a good price, and to give satisfaction to their customers. British-made goods are in favour, and it is only necessary to secure the attention of the most of the best buyers. When druggists' goods are in question, this is obtained by advertising in our

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN ISSUE.

The date of publication is May 18, 1912, and an increased circulation, additional to our ordinary weekly distribution (unique of its kind), is being given at ordinary advertising rates. Send your instructions for advertising without delay to the Publisher, THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

SUMMARY OF THIS ISSUE.

The more notable items only are dealt with.

The Shops Act, 1912.

All the Shops Regulation Acts, including the one passed in December 1911, have been consolidated in one statute which has received the Royal Assent.

The measure, after being in the House of Lords from February 28 to March 26, was rushed through the House of Commons in one sitting—March 27. See p. 42.

We give a full exposition of the Act in our first editorial article, showing that it is not mere consolidation; still the alterations leave chemists practically as they would have been under the 1911 Act (p. 48).

We also print the text of the clauses with which chemists as shopkeepers are most concerned (p. 43).

Articles and Communications.

Mr. William Duncan's answers to queries are generally entertaining as well as instructive. His latest are on p. 53.

The position of the Midland Pharmaceutical Association in relation to Birmingham pharmacists is discussed by correspondents on p. 63.

Practical and useful observations on pill-excipients, with particulars of the composition of a new one for essential oils, etc., are given on p. 53.

In the second of our series of articles on Secret Remedies we deal with German law and practice in the matter (p. 50). It is of interest to compare the recent Canadian regulations (p. 37).

Sir Joseph J. Thomson's later discourses on molecular physics contain much in regard to colloids, emulsions, and jellies which illuminate some pharmaceutical problems. See p. 51.

We have in type more of the series of articles on National Insurance Dispensing, and hope to print the fourth next week. In the meantime we call attention to medical observations regarding dispensing, which are given on p. 44. Several points of interest are also reported on pp. 55-58.

News of the Week.

The latest information about legislation *re* apothecaries' assistants is on p. 51.

Further Parliamentary particulars about the Select Committee on Secret Medicines are reported on p. 42.

Owing to the Easter holidays, this issue closed for press on Wednesday afternoon. News of this week received later will be included in our issue of April 13.

From New South Wales we have an interesting letter, in which the Pharmacy Board lays down the conditions for pharmaceutical reciprocity with Great Britain (p. 36).

At the Chemical Society's annual meeting Dr. H. B. Baker was presented with the Longstaff medal, and Professor Frankland addressed the meeting on some stereochemical problems (p. 55).

The jury of the London Sessions, before whom the Zambuk case (*C. & D.*, March 30, index folio 470) was heard on Wednesday, failed to agree, and the case was held over until next session. Our report will be given next week.

Chemists' decisions as to shops' closing-orders are mentioned on p. 34. We learn that the result of the canvass of Glasgow chemists, including Govan and Partick, is that there are 253 in favour of obtaining a closing-order under the Shops Act, and 11 against.

Trade and Market Matters.

The conditions of the olive crops in the principal producing countries are summarised in a special article by a Marseilles correspondent. Crops are abundant, but prices are high as the result of a great shortage in the previous season (p. 62).

In spite of the miners' strike and the partial cessation of railway goods traffic, business in heavy chemicals has been brisk, and several products are rising owing to scarcity. These include all ammonia products—sulphate, carbonate, nitrate, and sal ammoniac. Copper sulphate, benzols, copperas, glucose, starches, and cummin-seed are also higher. Glycerin, cascara, quinine, citric acid, and menthol are firmer. Quicksilver (seconds), Mexican sarsaparilla, turpentine, morphine, codeine, and milk-sugar are all cheaper (p. 59).

ENGLISH AND WELSH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Brevities.

The Kesteven (Lines) County Council's medical officer, after inquiring into the allegations *re* the careless handling of arsenic (*C. & D.*, February 17, index folio 244), reports that he had not been able to trace any indiscreet or thoughtless handling of arsenic in the district.

The premises of Messrs. Duncan, Fleckhart & Co., in Farringdon Road, London, E.C., were damaged to a slight extent by smoke and water through a serious fire which occurred at the premises of the British Golf Co., next door, on March 30. Some sixty fire-engines were engaged at one time in coping with the outbreak.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

At a meeting of the Lambeth Borough Council on March 28, Mr. F. Fielder pointed out that the seventy samples mentioned in the Public Health Committee's report did not contain any of drugs. Did the Committee procure samples of drugs for analysis? Mr. J. E. Wood, Chairman of the Committee, replied that samples were taken, but it happened in the previous fortnight the chemists had been left severely alone. In reply to a question he said that many samples of drugs had been taken for analysis, but they have generally proved to be quite pure.

Spectacle-makers' Company.

The entries for the May examinations include a good proportion of chemists, and the examination gives promise of being a record one in point of number of candidates. Opticians are reminded that the first of the course of lectures on optics is to take place at the Carpenters' Hall, London Wall, London, E.C., on April 10. Professor Silvanus P. Thompson, F.R.S., will lecture on "Aberrations, Monochromatic and Polychromatic." Other lectures will be given by Mr. H. G. Critchley on April 17 and 24. Tickets are obtainable from Col. T. Davies Sewell, 11 Temple House, Temple Avenue, London, E.C.

The Shops Act.

The chemists of Crouch End, Highgate, and Hornsey, London, N., have agreed to apply for an early-closing order—1 p.m. on Thursdays.

The chemists of Enfield Town and Bush Hill Park, Middlesex, have decided to petition the Urban District Council for a closing order for Wednesday at 1 p.m.

Three Winchmore Hill chemists (Mr. J. H. P. Bolton, The Green, Messrs. Matthews, Ltd., The Broadway, and Messrs. Rhinds, Ltd., The Broadway) are closing at 1 p.m. on Wednesdays, commencing April 10.

The Brighton Town Council has been recommended by the General Purposes Committee to accede to the request of the local Association of Pharmacy (*C. & D.*, March 30, index folio 484) for a vote of the trade *re* closing on Thursdays at 2 p.m.

Poison-licences.

Warrington Town Council has granted a poison-licence to F. C. Philips, employed by F. W. Walters.

The Middlesex County Council has renewed six poison-licences and granted new licences to Wm. Wood & Sons, Ltd., North British Wharf, Wood Green, and to the secretary, Mr. A. J. Wood. There was no opposition to the latter applications.

From Various Courts.

At Cheltenham on March 29, a youth named Wm. Peacey was bound over for a year for stealing a razor and case from the shop of the Cheltenham Drug Co., High Street. The article was taken from the counter while a customer was being served.

The Shoreditch Coroner (Dr. W. Wynn Westcott), on April 2, during the inquest on Harry Jennings, aged two and a half months, whose death was caused by an undigested mass of curdled milk, said that there should be legislation to prevent chemists selling "tube" feeding-bottles.

At Teignmouth Sessions on March 25, the charge against Fredk. Charles Edmonds, chemist's assistant, of riding a motor-cycle in a manner dangerous to the public, was dismissed. The Chairman of the Magistrates said that the Bench disagreed, but cautioned defendant, and hoped that he would be more careful in future.

At Feltham Police Court on April 1, the charge of shopbreaking against four boys, named Charles Stevens (18), Joseph Gully (17), George Redwin (14), and Frederick Jelly (13), was reduced to one of larceny. The youths entered the pharmacy of Mr. Harold H. Classey, chemist and druggist, Kingston Lane, Teddington, and stole 2*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.* in money, a postal-order for 5*s.* and a watch. Each of the accused was placed on probation for twelve months, Stevens being also fined 1*l.* and Gully 10*s.*

IRISH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Brevities.

Mr. S. Carson, registered druggist, 41 Albertbridge Road, who recently decided to devote all his attention to dentistry, is moving on May 1 to 195 Albertbridge Road, Belfast.

At the Castletwellan Petty Sessions last week, a man named Morrison was sentenced to one month's hard labour for stealing neuralgia-mixture, embrocation, and honey belonging to Mr. S. J. Smilie, registered druggist, Castletwellan.

Arbitration Award.

Messrs. Wm. Dobbin & Co., wholesale druggists, North Street, Belfast, have come out well in the arbitration with the Belfast Corporation regarding the price to be paid for the acquisition of ground on which the front of their shop now stands for street-widening. The arbitrator has awarded them 3,316*l.* 0*s.* 1*d.*, which compares favourably with the sum of 624*l.*, which was offered on behalf of the Corporation.

Drug-contracts.

The Lisburn Guardians have given their drug-contract to Messrs. Boileau & Boyd, and that for medical and surgical appliances to Messrs. S. Connor & Sons, Newry.

Messrs. Boileau & Boyd, Dublin, have been declared contractors to the Cootehill Board of Guardians for the supply of drugs at 33½ per cent. discount and surgical appliances at 36¾ per cent.

The Ballycastle Guardians have given the yearly drug-contract to Messrs. Boileau & Boyd, who offered a discount of 33½ per cent. off the standard list. The same firm obtained the contract for medical and surgical appliances at a discount of 36¾ per cent.

The tender of Messrs. B. Clarke & Sons, Belfast, for the supply of drugs to the Belfast Corporation Infectious Diseases Hospital at Purdysburn has been accepted. Successful tenders for other contracts with the same institution are those of Messrs. J. & J. Haslett, druggists, North Street, and Mr. Wm. Haslett, grocer and druggist, Ormeau Road.

The Local Government Board have intimated to the Fermoy Board of Guardians that Messrs. Boileau & Boyd, whose tender the Guardians accepted for the supply of medicines, "held a large number of contracts in the year 1911-12 for the supply of drugs to Poor Law Unions, and that many complaints were made as to delay on their part in fulfilling orders. In these circumstances, the Board are of opinion that the firm are not entitled to a preference as proposed, and that the medicine-contract should be assigned to Messrs. Sumner & Co., who offered the best terms." The Clerk was directed to reply that there had been no complaint against Messrs. Boileau & Boyd so far as that Union is concerned.

The chemists and druggists in Central and Southern Divisions of Edinburgh have, with a few exceptions, agreed to close every Wednesday at 1 p.m. on and after April 3.

FRENCH NEWS.

(From the "C. & D." Paris Correspondent.)

A QUESTION OF ADVERTISING.—M. Dunan (President of the Council of the Fraternal Association of Pharmaceutical Publicity) having proposed that pharmacists should agree "not to discourage, openly or otherwise, the sale of all proprietaries, etc., advertised in the columns" of a local pharmacy journal, a Nice pharmacist protests. He thinks M. Dunan should have consulted the Associations before committing himself to such suggestions.

PHARMACEUTICAL WINDOW-DISPLAY.—Some advertisements strike one as rather beside the mark. In the Rue Nationale, the great commercial thoroughfare of Tours, there is a "commercial" pharmacy which goes in for effective window-display. One window was full of nothing but Odol, another of surgical bandages, and a third was devoted to cough-lozenges and cigarettes. This represented a snow-covered street, with a smart comfortable couple pitying a wretched coughing passer-by who had not used the said injubes and cigarettes. Tours is a city of handsome shops, especially the Rue Nationale, and this neighbouring pharmacy could certainly not be beaten in Paris for window-display and "regardless of expense" get-up.

THE RADIUM STANDARD.—The Commission referred to in the *C. & D.*, March 30, index folio 466, met at the Sorbonne, Paris, from March 25 to 29, seven out of ten members being present. A room in the Sorbonne which had not been contaminated by radioactive dust was placed at the disposal of the Commission. Mme. Curie's sample of 22 milligrams was compared by two separate methods with three other specimens of 10, 31, and 40 milligrams prepared by Professor Høenigsmidt, of Vienna. These last-named samples, purified by an entirely different process, were found to agree with Mme. Curie's specimen, which it was decided to adopt as the international standard to be preserved in the International Bureau of Weights and Measures at Sèvres. The Austrian standard of 31 milligrams will be kept at Vienna under precisely similar conditions. The secondary standards for other countries will be checked by comparison with the French standard, and arrangements were completed to enable this to be brought about.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN NEWS.

ASSISTANTS IN RUSSIA.—According to a statement by the President of the Pharmacists' Association in St. Petersburg, about 1,000 pharmacists' assistants in that city work from 13½ to 15 hours per day with a midday interval of one hour. In many pharmacies the work is not taken in relays. The salaries paid are described as insufficient: a dispenser receiving from 70 to 90 roubles and an assistant dispenser from 50 to 70 roubles per month, while the monthly wage of an apprentice is from 15 to 30 roubles.

WEST INDIAN BAY OIL.—The principal manufacturing industry in the island of St. John, Danish West Indies, is bay oil, four plants for the distillation of which are in operation, and large groves of bay trees are cultivated for supplying the leaves. About \$40,000 capital is invested in the industry. Plans have been formulated and work begun on the production of lime-juice in large quantities, and more than 100,000 lime-trees are being cultivated, one-half of these already bearing; a plant for the pressing of the juice is in process of construction.

PHARMACIES IN RUSSIA.—A deputation of pharmacy proprietors recently waited on the President of the Ministerial Cabinet in St. Petersburg to protest against the introduction of a Bill enabling pharmacists to open business on merely giving notice of their intention to do so. It was stated that the measure would mean ruin to the majority of pharmacists, and it was also pointed out the Bill would be in conflict with an existing measure preventing the licensing of a pharmacy where such would prejudice existing pharmacies. No definite answer was obtained from the authorities.

USE OF THE RED CROSS IN SWEDEN.—The Board of Trade are in receipt of a translation of a Swedish law which came into force on January 1, 1912, restricting the use of the Red Cross as a mark, or of the words "Red Cross" or "Geneva Cross" to military hospitals, or to duly authorised societies formed for helping the wounded or sick in time of war. Such mark or designation is not, however, to be used by the authorised societies on commercial goods or for other commercial purposes. The use of such a mark or designation on goods by unauthorised persons or firms is forbidden under penalty; but it is provided that such marks or designations may be used, until January 1, 1915, by merchants or firms who had used them before the passing of the present Act.

LEASING CONCESSIONS.—For some years the Government of the Grand Duchy of Hesse has adopted the course of not granting concessions to open new pharmacies to individuals, but to the town or village authorities, who in turn are empowered to lease the pharmacy thus granted to a qualified apotheker. The historic town of Worms owns a town pharmacy of this description, and the contract entered into between the authorities and the leaseholder stipulates that the latter shall surrender to the town 50 per cent. of the returns from prescription work for private persons, 18 per cent. on prescriptions made up for members of sick clubs, and 10 per cent. of the turnover in counter sales. During the past year the leaseholder paid to the town the sum of 228*l.* 5*s.*; his returns from prescription work totalled 512*l.* 3*s.*, and the counter sales amounted to 1,073*l.* 8*s.*; the latter figure shows a decrease as compared with the year 1910, in which the counter sales amounted to 1,361*l.* 17*s.*

INDIA AND THE EAST.

(From the "C. & D." Correspondents.)

MR. C. W. WHITE, of Bombay, left on March 15 on his Bengal journey.

GANJA-DUTY INCREASED.—A notice (No. 892 R), dated February 22 last, has been issued directing that from April 1, 1912, the duties imposed by the notification No. 1023 K of February 25, 1911, on ganja or any preparation or admixture thereof imported into British Baluchistan from another province of British India, or from foreign territory, shall be raised from Rs. 6 and Rs. 12 per seer to Rs. 7½ and Rs. 15 per seer respectively.

HYPODERMIC SYRINGES PROHIBITED.—A notification, dated February 24 (Customs Circular No. 2 of 1912), has been issued notifying, under Section 19 of the Sea Customs Act No. 8 of 1878, the prohibition of the importation by sea or by land into Burma, *by means of the post*, of hypodermic syringes or of needles for hypodermic injections, with effect from March 1, 1912. It is further provided that the importation of these articles *by other means* shall be restricted to cases in which they are imported by a medical practitioner or licensed pharmacist, as defined by the rules made by the Government of Burma under the Opium Act No. 1 of 1878.

OPIMUM AND COCAINE IN CEYLON.—In the course of the trade report of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1911, it is stated that since the institution of the Government monopoly in opium in 1910 the Government has been importing at the rate of ten chests (1,200 lb.) per month. Stringent endeavours are being made to detect smuggling, and, although liberal rewards are offered, no successful seizures have been made. The restrictions on the importation and possession of opium have synchronised with a large increase in the importation of cocaine. The figures from 1909 onwards (previous to which the imports were very large, there being no local restrictions) are as follows: 1909, 41 oz.; 1910, January to June, 58 oz.; 1910, July to December, 87½ oz.; 1911, January to June, 156½ oz. Inquiries are now being pursued as to the real destination of these increased imports, and it seems probable that the regulations for the distribution and possession of the drug will have to be strengthened.

AUSTRALASIAN NEWS.

"The Chemist and Druggist" is regularly supplied by order to all the members of nine Societies of Chemists in Australia and New Zealand, and to many other Chemists in business there.

New South Wales.

PROPOSED PHARMACY SCHOOL.—At the meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society on January 12, Messrs. Loney and Short, who interviewed the University authorities in regard to the establishment of a pharmacy department at the University, reported that as a result it was resolved to write to the Senate, pressing upon them the following points:

- (1) That a course of practical botany be embodied in the present botany course.
- (2) That the lectures on materia medica for pharmacy students be held in the second year, and that the examination in this subject be held at the end of the term.
- (3) That a director of pharmacy be appointed, who shall lecture on such subjects as are not included in the present course.
- (4) The fee for the extra course in practical botany be 2l. 2s.

At the February meeting the President (Mr. A. Wadsworth) referred to the death of Mr. J. S. Abrahams, the last of the founders of the Society in 1876. Mr. R. C. Cowley communicated with the Society in regard to the Pharmaceutical Conference to be held in January 1913. A communication was received from the Royal Commission appointed to consider the adoption of standards for foods and drugs by all the States of the Commonwealth. A committee was appointed to decide whether any alterations are desirable in the standards referred to in the report of the Commission. The Premier wrote regarding the Fédération Internationale Pharmaceutique, and it was agreed to supply the information desired regarding the societies in the State, but to decline the appointment of a delegate owing to the distance. Mr. R. G. Brereton presented a copy of the London Pharmacopœia, 1788, for which he received the thanks of the Society.

IMPERIAL RECIPROCITY.—This question came up for consideration at the January meeting of the Pharmacy Board, and after discussion it was agreed to send the following letter to the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain:

I have the honour, by direction, to make the following proposals *re* the proposed reciprocal agreement between the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain and the Pharmacy Board of New South Wales:

(1) The Pharmacy Board of New South Wales will register those chemists and druggists and pharmaceutical chemists of Great Britain who have done the following:

- (a) Passed the Preliminary examination in force at the time of entering into apprenticeship, and
- (b) Served an apprenticeship of not less than three years in Great Britain with a chemist and druggist or pharmaceutical chemist of Great Britain, and
- (c) Passed the Final and Qualifying examinations of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

(2) The Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain will register those pharmacists of New South Wales who have done the following:

- (a) Passed the Preliminary examination in force at the time of entering into apprenticeship, and
- (b) Served an apprenticeship of not less than three years with a chemist or a registered pharmacist of New South Wales, and
- (c) Gone through the whole curriculum as laid down in the Poisons Act of 1876 or the Pharmacy Act of 1897, and
- (d) Passed the Qualifying examination of the Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales before July 1, 1897, or, the Qualifying examination of the Pharmacy Board of New South Wales after July 1, 1897, and
- (e) Been registered as a pharmacist of New South Wales by the Pharmaceutical Board of New South Wales.

(3) Mode of application:

(a) The applicant must before applying for registration put himself within the jurisdiction of the registering body; that is, either he must be in Great Britain when applying for registration there or he must be in New South Wales when applying for registration in New South Wales.

(b) The applicant shall bring documentary evidence of his qualifications—that is to say, the British applicant shall lodge with the Pharmacy Board of New South Wales his certificate of having passed a Preliminary examination. He

shall lodge with the Board a certificate from the Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain of apprenticeship of not less than three years.

(c) He shall lodge a certificate that he has passed the Qualifying examination of Great Britain.

(d) He shall lodge a certificate or diploma that he has been registered as a chemist and druggist or pharmaceutical chemist by the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain. The New South Wales applicant in Great Britain shall lodge with the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain the following documents:

(e) A certificate of having been registered as a pharmacist by the Pharmacy Board of New South Wales;

(f) A certificate from the Registrar of the Pharmacy Board of New South Wales that he has served an apprenticeship of not less than three years with a registered pharmacist in New South Wales;

(g) A certificate of having passed either the Qualifying examination of the Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales before July 1, 1897, or a certificate of having passed the examination at the Sydney University and the Final examination of the Pharmacy Board of New South Wales in terms of the Pharmacy Act of 1897;

(h) A certificate of having been registered as a pharmacist by the Pharmacy Board of New South Wales.

The applicant shall pay the registration-fee prescribed. All the above certificates are to be returned to the applicant. In case of the loss of any document by the applicant, the Secretary or Registrar may make a statutory declaration that the applicant was in possession of such document, and that he has fulfilled the specified conditions. Such statutory declaration to be retained by the registering body as proof. The above will agree with Sections 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, and 7 of the suggestions made by the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain. Regarding Section 4, it will be difficult to bring this proof unless the fact of having served an apprenticeship of not less than three years with a chemist will be accepted as sufficient proof.

We in New South Wales understand that there is no compulsory systematic study in Great Britain as far as chemists are concerned. There is a College of Pharmacy, but it is not compulsory to attend that college before the Qualifying examinations. In New South Wales, before the Pharmacy Act of 1897, there also was no compulsory systematic study except apprenticeship. The Pharmaceutical Society had a college open to students, but the Poisons Act of 1876 did not make attendance at that college compulsory. Since July 1, 1897, we have had compulsory attendance at the lectures at the University, and it therefore seems necessary to come to an understanding of the meaning of Section 4, and the proposal of this Board is that the certificates of apprenticeship be accepted in proof of such study and training to the date that compulsory attendance at such college becomes law.

Sections 8 and 9. The Pharmacy Board of New South Wales is prepared to submit full particulars of the scope and standard of the examination requirements. In fact, that has been done already, and the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain is now in possession of this matter, which, however, will be submitted again as soon as desired. The interchange of examination data will be carefully observed by the Pharmacy Board of New South Wales in the shape of copies of all examination papers.

New Zealand.

RECIPROCITY.—At the Conference of the Pharmacy Board to be held in Wellington Mr. F. Castle is introducing a motion to provide for regulations settling the conditions of reciprocal recognition and exchange of certificates of registration between the Pharmacy Board of New Zealand and the pharmaceutical authorities of the Australian Commonwealth. It is proposed to provide for reciprocity on the whole register basis in Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia, and Western Australia, and on an examination basis with Queensland and Tasmania. The whole register basis came to an end on March 1, after which reciprocity is to be granted only to those who hold certificates of registration obtained by passing the necessary examination. No application will be accepted within three months of the passing of an examination or securing of registration. The ordinary fees for registration will have to be paid, and any New Zealand pharmacist who desires a special registration certificate for reciprocity purposes must pay the fee of half a guinea.

ALUMINIUM SULPHIDE is suggested as a convenient method of "sulphiding" a bleached bromide print. "Photography" states that the process is "distinctly smelly."

CANADIAN NEWS.

(From the "C. & D." Correspondent.)

ONTARIO COLLEGE OF PHARMACY.—The annual fee payable by members is now raised to \$3 if paid before May 1, and \$4 if paid after that date, this being \$1 more than has hitherto been charged. The College pays 50c. per member to the Canadian Pharmaceutical Association.

MR. A. W. P. GOURLIE. Summerside, Prince Edward Island, who died on February 20, was President of the P.E.I. Pharmaceutical Society in 1908, and at the time of his death was Chairman of the Committee on Commercial Interests of the Canadian Pharmaceutical Association.

PARCEL-POST.—According to the "Canadian Pharmaceutical Journal," "legitimate retailing in Canada is menaced by the introduction of this aid to trade demoralisers." The aid referred to is the parcel-post, of which we read further on: "No more unjust and pernicious element could be introduced into our commercial fabric."

PROPRIETARY MEDICINES.—The Patent and Proprietary Medicine Act of Canada requires that all "patent and proprietary medicines" intended for internal use of man, manufactured or imported into Canada for sale, shall be registered with the Inland Revenue Department of Ottawa before April 1 each year. The definition of the term "patent and proprietary medicine" is "every artificial remedy or prescription manufactured for the internal use of man." The "Canadian Pharmaceutical Journal" gives an abstract of Circular No. 945, in which the department has promulgated a number of regulations for the guidance of those registering medicines. These regulations exempt all preparations for external use, provided they do not contain cocaine or any of its salts or preparations. The following classes of medicines are especially mentioned for exemption: Gargles, mouth-washes, dentrifices, and toothache-cures when not intended to be swallowed; nasal balms, nasal salves and snuffs, when they contain no scheduled drugs or the alkaloids thereof; catarrh remedies, when not employed as a constitutional treatment, and when containing no scheduled drugs nor the alkaloids thereof; eye and ear remedies, when not employed as a constitutional treatment; lotions and liniments, when not employed as a constitutional treatment, nor used as injections into the rectum; pile-ointments, pile-salves, and urethral injections. In addition to these, all preparations are exempt which are manufactured according to the British Pharmacopœia, the French Codex, the United States Pharmacopœia, or any foreign Pharmacopœia, or any formulary adopted by any properly constituted Pharmaceutical Association, representing the Dominion of Canada and approved by the Minister, or any preparation upon the label and wrapper of which the true formula or list of ingredients is printed, provided the same contains no cocaine or its derivatives or preparations. Regulation 9 requires that where a preparation is put up in small packages and placed in one container, each of these separate packages, if sold separately, must bear the number of the certificate and the words "The Patent and Proprietary Medicine Act," and if they contained scheduled drugs in excess of the dose required by the department, then the name of such drug must be printed on each separate package. Regulation 10 requires that all new labels and wrappers must bear, as an inseparable part of it, the number of the certificate and the words "Patent and Proprietary Medicine Act." An over-print of this matter with a rubber stamp is only permitted on old labels and wrappers in stock before April 1, 1909. Regulation 11 provides that if a preparation contains any of the following drugs the name must be printed on the wrapper and label in a conspicuous manner—viz.: Oil of tansy, oil of savin, pennyroyal, ergot, cotton-root, hellebore. Regulation 12 governs the dosage, which is—Children of ten years, $\frac{1}{2}$ adult dose; of five years, $\frac{1}{2}$; of two years, $\frac{1}{4}$; of one year and under, $\frac{1}{8}$. The presence must be declared of opium in preparations intended for infants under one year. The doses for children should preferably be given in drops. The department furnishes blank forms for application for registration the fee being \$1.00.

SOUTH AFRICAN NEWS.

(From "C. & D." Correspondents.)

"The Chemist and Druggist" is regularly supplied by order to all the members of the seven Societies and Associations of Chemists in British South Africa, as well as to other chemists in business there.

Cape Province.

PERSONAL.—Mr. Chandos W. Brydges has taken up a position as traveller for Messrs. Petersen, Ltd.

THE WEATHER.—On Saturday, March 9, the cold was so intense at Cape Town that an overcoat was a necessity. Three days later there was one of the hottest days on record. The sudden changes in temperature have resulted in more business for the chemists and doctors.

SHEEP-DIPS.—The "South African Mining Journal" (Johannesburg) of March 2 states that the manufacture of tobacco sheep-dips, nicotine, and insecticides is an industry which is likely to be started at Cape Town in the near future, the raw material being readily obtainable in Cape Colony, the Transvaal, and Natal. Official figures show that the sales amount annually to about 50,000lb.

THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF CAPE PROVINCE is having a busy time of it. During the third week in March a deputation was to wait on the Collector of Customs (Mr. Geo. Mayston) in reference to pills and tablets, and thereafter on another officer of the Government in regard to the metric system. Some years back, before the Union, and when the five Collectors of Customs representing various provinces met at Cape Town, there was trouble over the importation of pills, and the matter was then decided as it stands in the Customs tariff at present. The Union Controller considers that pills and tablets should pay 20s. per lb., notwithstanding that he represented the Natal Government at the time of the former conference, and agreed thereto. Either the Government is wrong and all the old Governments were wrong in their interpretation of the law, or the Union Government is wrong now. In the meantime business is sadly hampered.

Orange Free State.

O.F.S. MEDICAL AND PHARMACY COUNCIL.—At the monthly meeting held at Bloemfontein on March 8 the following members were present: Dr. A. B. Ward (President), Drs. Bidwell, de Kock, Pretorius, and Usmar, Mr. White-side (dental member), and Messrs. Hewitt and Westlake (pharmaceutical members). The President extended a welcome to Mr. Westlake on his election to the Council. As there had been no quorum at the February meeting, the items on the agenda for that meeting were dealt with, as well as the matters for the March meeting. The following registration was confirmed: Archibald Thornton Butler (chemist and druggist, Cape Colony, 1903); address, c/o J. E. Arendse, Frankfurt. The report of the examiners for the Chemists' and Druggists' examination held on February 27 and 28 stated that the only candidate, Mr. James Reid, had passed the examination. The report was confirmed. A letter had been received from the Transvaal Medical Council containing a resolution in favour of the publication of the resolutions of the Inter-Colonial Medical and Pharmaceutical Conference held in 1910. On the motion of Mr. Hewitt, seconded by Dr. de Kock, it was resolved that the Transvaal delegates to the conference be requested to approach the Minister of the Interior with a view to obtaining the Government's permission to publish the draft Bill prepared from the minutes of the conference by the Transvaal delegates. The Secretary read a letter from the Transvaal Pharmacy Board on the same subject, stating that there appeared to be no objection to the publication of the conference's conclusions. The Secretary was instructed to send a copy of the above resolution to the Board. The President read the report of the Pharmaceutical Society of this province on the subject of the establishment of reciprocal relationships between the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain and similar societies in other parts of the Empire. Mr. Hewitt was proceeding to explain the clauses of the report seriatim, when Mr. Westlake, who stated that he was not a member of the Pharmaceutical Society, said he would be glad

of an opportunity of considering the report before it was dealt with by the whole Council, and proposed that the matter be referred to the pharmaceutical members of the Council. Mr. Hewitt seconded the motion, and it was resolved that the matter should be referred accordingly.

Natal Pharmaceutical Society.

THE monthly meeting of the above Society was held at the rooms of Mr. G. Stuart Jones, in Durban, on February 29. There were present Messrs. Dunkerton (Chairman), Jones, Anderson, Johnston, Gale, Acton, Tyson, Whysall, Irving, and Goodbrand (Hon. Secretary). Mr. Dunkerton drew attention to the difficulty which had existed in obtaining a quorum, no fewer than three meetings having been adjourned for this reason.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES BILL.—The Vice-President introduced this, referring particularly to the clause relating to the compulsory enforcement of the metric system on chemists. The minutes of the last committee-meeting contained a recommendation to the general meeting that the committee does not approve of the compulsory enforcement of the metric system. The Hon. Secretary then read the correspondence received in answer to telegrams from the Pharmaceutical Societies of the Cape Province and the Orange Free State and the Eastern Districts Chemists' Association, all of whom objected to the clause. Mr. Anderson moved: "That this Society urge upon the Government to withdraw the clause in its entirety," which motion was carried. The Hon. Secretary was instructed to write to the various Pharmaceutical Associations, enclosing a copy of the resolution. In addition, the Hon. Secretary is to forward a copy of the resolution together with a circular-letter to all the chemists in the Province, requesting them to write to their members of Parliament asking them to use their influence in having the clause deleted. The Secretary would also, on behalf of the Society, write to the Natal members.

ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS.—The following were elected members of the Society: Mr. Morris W. Stranack, Mr. J. W. Cooper, Mr. I. N. Irving, Mr. Frank Robinson, Mr. Hobkirk—all residing in Durban.

Private Meetings.

A MEETING of creditors of David D. Duncan, chemist and druggist, Falkirk, was held on March 25, when debtor made an offer of 5s. in the pound. Those present agreed to recommend acceptance of the same. The statement of affairs showed liabilities 1,060l. 5s., with assets 167l. less preferable claims 88l. 9s. 7d., or a composition of 1s. 7d. in the pound, subject to the expenses of realisation. The creditors include S. Maw, Son & Sons (20l.); Wm. Martindale (6l. 7s. 2d.); Yardley & Co., Ltd. (9l.); Spurway & Co. (7l.); John Timpon & Co., Ltd. (19l.); Burroughs Wellcome & Co. (6l.); R. J. Reuter (16l.); Allen & Hanburys, Ltd. (35l.); The British Drug Houses, Ltd. (9l.); Southall Bros. & Barclay, Ltd., Birmingham (6l.); John Mackay & Co., Edinburgh (6l.); J. F. Macfarlan & Co., Edinburgh (28l.); Medical Supply Association, Glasgow (7l.); and Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd., Liverpool (62l.).

The creditors of Jesse Williams, chemist and druggist, 132 Queen Street, Cardiff, met at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, London, E.C., on March 27, when a statement of affairs presented showed unsecured liabilities of 1,655l. and net assets, after deducting preferential claims for 102l., of 1,388l. The unsecured trade liabilities total 1,155l., and the unsecured cash claims 500l. The assets were made up of stock in trade, 500l.; fixtures and fittings, 250l.; book debts, valued at 200l.; household furniture, 100l.; and surplus from securities in hand of fully secured creditors, 440l. The debtor stated that takings for 1909 were about 3,984l.; for 1910, 5,715l.; and for 1911, 3,272l. His gross profits were about 1,100l. a year, but expenses were roughly 950l. After some discussion, it was decided that the debtor should execute a deed of assignment, with a view to the payment of a composition of 10s. in the pound, spread over a period of eighteen months. A committee of inspection, consisting of Messrs. Savage (Wright, Layman & Umney, Ltd.), Denton (S. Maw, Son & Sons), and F. R. Newbery (Francis Newbery & Sons, Ltd.), was appointed to act with the trustee. The following are creditors: S. Maw, Son & Sons (70l.); May, Roberts & Co., Ltd. (66l.); Wright, Layman & Umney, Ltd. (94l.); Butler & Crispe (53l.); R. Hovenden & Sons (16l.); W. Peace & Sons (57l.); F. Newbery & Sons, Ltd. (65l.); Burgoyne, Burdidge & Co. (16l.); Brand & Co., Ltd. (11l.); W. J. Bush & Co., Ltd. (18l.); British Oxygen Co., Birmingham (16l.); ditto, Cardiff (9l.); Crosswell Bros. (20l.); Colthurst & Harding (25l.); Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd. (29l.); D. & W. Gibbs, Ltd. (13l.); Goldhill & Co., Ltd.

(13l.); Thos. Gould & Co., Ltd. (10l.); J. Grossmith, Son & Co. (12l.); Johnson & Sons (15l.); G. B. Kent & Sons, Ltd. (28l.); Liverpool Lint Co. (18l.); Read & Campbell, Ltd. (13l.); W. Sutton & Co. (13l.); United Alkali Co., Ltd. (13l.); Vauxhall Methyating Co. (13l.); Warrick Bros. (14l.); York Glass Co., Ltd. (33l.); Van Oppen, Ross & Co. (9l.).

LEGAL REPORTS.

TRADE LAW.

Inferior Ginger.—For selling ground ginger certified to contain 5.5 per cent. of extraneous matter, added to whiten it, Martin Johnson, Bishop Auckland, was on March 23 fined 10s., including costs.

Gillette Razor Patent.—Mr. Justice Parker, on April 3, decided in the action by the Gillette Safety Razor Co. against the Anglo-American Trading Co. that the plaintiffs had made out their case, and granted the injunction asked for, with an inquiry into damages.

Dentists' Act.—At the Bradford Police Court on April 2, Charles Dentith Vickers was summoned at the instance of the Society of British Dentists for unlawfully taking and using the name and title "dental surgeon." Defendant pleaded guilty. Mr. T. Young, who supported the summons, said it had been taken under Section 3 of the Dentists Act, 1878; defendant had printed on his stationery "C. Dentith Vickers, D.D.S., Dental Surgeon." The Magistrates imposed a fine of 5l., with two guineas costs.

Not "Known, Admitted, and Approved."—Before the County Bench, at Wokingham, on Tuesday, March 26, William Henry Sandwith, Ph.C., Bracknell, Berks, was summoned by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise for selling a bottle of toothache-tincture unstamped. Mr. C. E. Fitzroy, of the Solicitors' Department, Custom House, London, E.C., prosecuted, and stated that the local supervisor purchased at the defendant's shop a sixpenny bottle of toothache-tincture, which, he contended, should have borne a 1d. stamp, but did not. For the defence, Mr. C. H. Dodd, of Reading, explained that the tincture was a "known, admitted, and approved remedy" for toothache, being composed of British Pharmacopoeia articles, and accordingly, he argued, it came within the exemption provided in the schedule to the Medicine-stamp Act, 1812.—The Chairman of the Bench (Mr. G. A. Watson), however, pointed out that the tincture had been sold as a nostrum, and there was nothing on the label of the bottle to say what it was made of. He considered that this knowledge should be conveyed to the purchaser by the vendor, and therefore that the article did not come under the exemption.—Mr. Fitzroy did not press for a heavy penalty, and the Magistrates imposed a fine of 1s. and 7s. 6d. costs.

Sponges on Appro.—In the City of London Court on Friday, March 29, before Judge Lumley Smith, K.C., the International Sponge Importers, Ltd., 45 Houndsditch, E.C., claimed 11l. 8s. for sponges supplied to Messrs. H. Bradby & Sons, Canning Place, De Vere Gardens, Kensington. Mr. A. W. Elkin appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. P. D. Langley for the defendants. Joseph Firminger, one of the plaintiffs' travellers, said that he called on the defendants from the spring to autumn of last year in endeavouring to get an order, and until they had exhausted their existing stock. On October 13 he told the defendants he had left samples for their inspection. Mr. Bradby approved of two or three different samples, which he said plaintiffs might send. He told Bradby he had some parcels of sponges, and that by taking the whole parcel he could invoice them at a cheaper rate. Defendant said he would take the whole parcel, so that he could form a better idea of what they were like. Afterwards defendants kept 2l. 8s. worth of the sponges, and sent a cheque for that amount, but it was returned because defendants wanted to return the sponges after four months, and that was wholly unreasonable and never heard of. He did not promise to collect the sponges. Defendant did not order only a couple of dozen sponges. All sponges were sent out by them subject to a ten-days' approval.—Mr. Bradby Cubitt, trading as H. Bradby & Sons, said he only ordered one to two dozen sponges on approval, and that he specifically said he would not buy those unless he liked them. He liked those which he used, and he had paid for them. The cheque was refused, and he had since paid it into court. Firminger promised to collect the rejected sponges, but failed to do so. That was why they stayed on his premises for four months, if that was the time.—Judge Lumley Smith, K.C., said he noticed that the plaintiffs sent the sponges on approval. Then they attempted to alter the contract by sending in an invoice saying that they were to be returned carriage paid, if not approved of, in ten days. Paying the carriage was no part of the contract. Plaintiffs could not do that. Defendants had made out their case. Judgment for them, with costs.

DEED OF ARRANGEMENT.

Thomas, Owen, Ida Place, Bethcar Street, Ebb Vale, Mon., Chemist and Druggist.—Trustee: M. White, 14 Old Jewry Chambers, London, E.C., C.A. Dated, March 22; filed, March 26. Liabilities unsecured, 523*l.*; estimated net assets, 191*l.* The creditors include Butler & Crispe (52*l.*); The British Drug Houses, Ltd. (45*l.*); Burgoyne, Burdidges & Co. (37*l.*); Edwards & Son (19*l.*); Manners & Hopkinson (19*l.*); Allen & Hanburys, Ltd. (12*l.*); Evans, Gadd & Co., Bristol (12*l.*); J. Quilliam & Co., Manchester (26*l.*).

GAZETTE.

Partnership Dissolved.

MARSHALL, T. E., MARSHALL, A., and MARSHALL, M., Kirkstall Road, Leeds, chemical manufacturers, under the style of the European Chemical Manufacturing Co.

The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

RECEIVING ORDER.

NICHOLSON, J. J., Leadenhall Street, City, surgeon.

LIMITED COMPANIES.

New Companies Registered.

The letters P.C. mean Private Company within the meaning of the Companies Act, 1907, and R.O., Registered Office.

PINOMED, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 1,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To take over the paper-handkerchief business of C. A. & J. Graham.

HORTON MANUFACTURING CO., LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 1,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To manufacture, sell, trade, and deal in "Horton's Liquid Soap." L. W. Holmes, M.I.E.E., 48 Great Russell Street, London, W.C., engineer, is the governing director and chairman.

ROSENZWEIG, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 1,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business carried on at Blackpool as B. Rosenzweig & Co., and to carry on the business of chemists, druggists, dyers, oil and colour men, etc. The first directors are J. Brooks, J. Potter, and B. E. Rosenzweig.

FITT, CASH CHEMISTS, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 300*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To take over the business of chemists, druggists, and storekeepers carried on by Sarah Fitt and F. H. Fitt at 8 Lind Road, Sutton, Surrey. The first directors are R. S. P. Robinson and W. White. R.O., the above address.

EDENPALE, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 1,000*l.* Objects: To carry on the business of chemical manufacturers, chemists, druggists, distillers, skin, massage, and hygienic treatment specialists, etc. The first subscribers are Miss R. F. C. Hutchinson, Medlicott, Ness, Neston, Cheshire, and Miss E. M. Adams, 12 London Grove, Liverpool, who will appoint the first directors.

Company News.

A. & F. PEARS, LTD.—The directors have declared a dividend at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum for the half-year to December 31.

BRITISH OPTICAL LENS CO., LTD.—Report of liquidator (Mr. A. C. Ridgway) at meeting to be held at Exchange Buildings, Birmingham, on May 1, at 11 A.M.

EVANS SONS LESCHER & WEBB, LTD.—The dividend warrants for the half-year's dividend on the 5 per cent. cumulative preference shares, April 1, were posted on March 30.

THE SACCHARIN FACTORY VORM. FAHLBERG, LIST & CO., of Salbke-Westerhusen a/Elbe, reports a total gross profit of 487,474*m.* for 1912. After deductions amounting to 306,515*m.*, a net profit of 207,115*m.* remains (this including the amount carried forward from the previous year). A dividend of 4 per cent. is to be paid on a share capital of 120,000*m.*, with a bonus of 1 per cent.

UNITED ALKALI CO., LTD.—Mr. John Breck (chairman) presided at the annual meeting held at Liverpool on March 23. The company, he said, had now attained its majority, and by conservative management it was stronger now than at any previous period. The works were well employed in 1911, but prices had been lower. The net profits, 306,969*l.*, were 6.996*l.* less than in 1910, which was accounted for by the disturbance to trade and loss through the trans-

port workers' strike in August. Mr. Muspratt referred to the progress of the company during the last twenty-one years. He said they had had to meet a great loss of markets through prohibitive duties being put on by America and Russia. Their trade in soda-ash and bleaching-powder was at one period swept away, but they had recovered from that blow, and had extended their operations in other directions. The report was adopted.

MELLIN'S FOOD, LTD.—In the Chancery Division on Tuesday, April 2, Mr. Justice Neville had again before him the petition of Mellin's Food, Ltd., for the sanction of the Court to a scheme of arrangement with its preference shareholders. Mr. Jenkins, K.C., for the company, stated that the petition was last before his Lordship on March 5. The company had a memorandum of association which provided that its capital should be 250,000*l.*, with power to increase or reduce. There were 20,000 preference shares of 5*l.* each, with a right to a cumulative preferential dividend of 6 per cent., ranking in priority over the ordinary shares. The company now desired to purchase an Australian business which it had itself started many years back, and an agreement was come to which provided that the business should be acquired on terms of issuing to the vendors preference shares to rank equally with the initial preference shares. That would, of course, have the effect of varying the rights of the existing preference shareholders, and his Lordship took the view that the matter came within Section 45 of the Companies Act. Since then the necessary special resolution of the company, and also a resolution of the particular class, had been duly passed. At the meeting on March 11, out of a total of 397 preference shareholders, 297, holding 77,080*l.* worth of the shares, attended in person or by proxy, so that this more than covered the three-fourths majority required. His Lordship sanctioned the scheme.

BUSINESS CHANGES.

Notes for this section sent to the Editor should be authenticated, and must not be in the nature of advertisements.

MR. T. SALTER, chemist and druggist, has purchased the business of Mr. G. Cutcliffe, 7 Strand, Dawlish.

MR. T. L. SALTER, chemist-optician; The Green, Southall, has opened a branch pharmacy at 4 High Street, Southall.

BOOTS CASH CHEMISTS, LTD., are opening another branch in Wimbledon, at 28 High Street, near the railway station.

MR. C. E. DAVIES, chemist and druggist, late of High Street, Rayleigh, Kent, is now in business at Staplehurst, Kent.

MR. H. TREMBATH, Ph.C., has taken over the business of Mr. George Lee, chemist, High Cross Pharmacy, Barnstable.

MESSRS. JOYNE & PINE, chemists and opticians, have put in a new front and fitted premises at 275 Upper Richmond Road, Putney, London, S.W.

MR. F. WAINWRIGHT, chemist and druggist, has purchased the business of Mr. R. Deck, chemist and druggist, 88 Market Street, Eastleigh, Hants.

MR. E. BROWNELL, chemist and druggist, has removed from 166 Woodhouse Street, Leeds, to more commodious premises at 174 in the same thoroughfare.

MR. A. GODDARD has repurchased the business at 74 High Street, Erith, Kent, from Mr. W. P. A. Taylor, chemist and druggist, formerly of Blackpool, and will continue it as a drug-stores.

MR. G. H. LISTER, pharmacist, has purchased the branch of Mr. Allwood Simpson, chemist and druggist, at 84 Stockport Road, Ashton-under-Lyne, which he has managed for the last three years.

MR. HERBERT JENKINS, chemist and druggist, Braintree, has purchased the stock and goodwill of the business of Mr. W. G. Mellor, chemist and druggist, Castle Hedingham, and has opened a branch business at new premises in the town.

"SALVARSAN is a specific for yaws, and there is no danger attending its use for this disease."—*Dr. H. Alston in the "British Medical Journal."*

THE WRITER of the account of the April Major examination in London, which appeared in our Supplement last week, informs us that he passed.

BIRTH.

PLATTIN.—At 10 Derby Road, Nottingham, on March 31, the wife of Spencer H. Platin, chemist-optician, of a daughter.

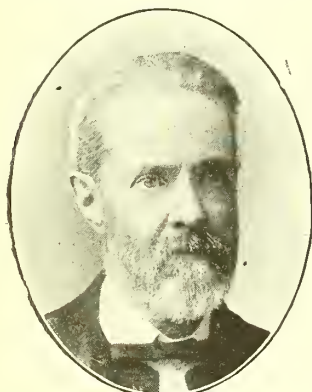
MARRIAGE.

PARSONS—EDSALL.—At St. Giles, Camberwell, London, S.E., on March 26, Harold Parsons, director of Messrs. Ashton & Parsons, Ltd., to Winifred May, youngest daughter of the late Mr. Bernard Edsall, surgeon, and of Mrs. Hawkin, The Grove, Denmark Hill, S.E.

Golden Weddings.

Mr. F. Spinney, chemist and druggist, 14 The Square, Bournemouth, celebrated three interesting events on March 25—viz., his birthday, his golden wedding, and the sixtieth anniversary of entering, as an assistant, the business he now conducts. Mr. and Mrs. Spinney were the recipients of many congratulations. They were also waited upon by a deputation from the Bournemouth Pharmaceutical Association, and the vicar and officers of Holy Trinity Church and a number of old local residents, who presented them with a casket containing a sum of money in gold and with a framed illuminated address.

On Saturday, March 30, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Eastman, of Forest Lane Pharmacy, Stratford, celebrated their golden wedding, surrounded by their family. They were the recipients of many presents, besides numerous congratulatory telegrams and letters. Quite early in the morning a cablegram was received from their son in America. During the day many friends called to convey their good wishes, among them being Mr. T. H. Seed, who presented to them, on behalf of himself and other members of the West Ham Association of Pharmacists, a case of fish knives and forks, accompanied by a letter of congratulation signed



MR. J. E. EASTMAN.

by the President, Secretary, and members. This gift and letter were very much appreciated by Mr. and Mrs. Eastman. Mr. Eastman is the "Father of the Association." A sketch of his pharmaceutical career was given in the *C. & D.*, 1909, II., 164.

DEATHS.

BRODRIBE.—On March 24, Mr. John Buckler Brodribb, chemist and druggist, 64 The Common, Upper Clapton, London, N.E.

HEDGER.—At Spring Grove Pharmacy, Isleworth, on March 30, Mr. Harry Ormsby Hedger, chemist and druggist, late of 71 East Hill, Wandsworth.

HOBBS.—On March 28, Rose Emily, wife of Mr. Harry Hobbs, chemist and druggist, Hyde Park Corner, Leeds.

JACKSON.—At Park Street, Lytham, on March 22, Mr. Thomas Jackson, aged seventy-five. Mr. Jackson started business as a chemist at the corner of Parker Street and Curzon Street, Burnley, about forty years ago, but in 1873 he went into practice as a dentist at 23 Hargreaves Street in that town. He served for a time on the Burnley Town Council.

PATTINSON.—At Shipcote House, Gateshead, on March 28, Mr. John Pattinson, J.P., public analyst for

Newcastle-on-Tyne and other local authorities in the North of England, aged eighty-four. Mr. Pattinson was an ex-Vice-President of the Chemical Society and of the Society of Public Analysts. He was buried at Jesmond Old Cemetery, Newcastle, on April 1.

RIEDEL.—At Berlin, on March 25, after an operation for appendicitis, Herr Kommerzienrat Paul Riedel, director of the J. D. Riedel Co., Ltd., of Berlin, London, and New York, wholesale druggists and manufacturing chemists, aged sixty. The deceased, who was an able pharmacist, had been connected with the firm for about forty years, the business having been commenced by his grandfather (who was a retail pharmacist in Berlin) in 1814. This was the foundation of a business which ultimately led to the manufacture of pharmaceutical and other chemicals on a large scale, the firm at a later date being converted into a limited company. Herr Riedel was a member of the Pharmaceutische Gesellschaft and the Deutsche Chemische Gesellschaft, as well as other scientific associations.

PERSONALITIES.

Notes for this section sent to the Editor should be authenticated, and must not be in the nature of advertisements.

MR. W. J. BARNES, chemist and druggist, Dover, has been reappointed an overseer of the poor for the borough.

MR. R. A. ROBINSON, Ph.C., barrister-at-law, has been elected a member of the Wanstead Urban District Council.

MR. BANKS SWINBURN, chemist and druggist, Penrith, has been elected President of the local Tradesmen's Association.

ALDERMAN H. POTTER, J.P., has given an interesting lecture at Southend Institute on "A Week on an Atlantic Liner."

MR. J. J. GILES, chemist and druggist, Folkestone, has been placed on the Commission of the Peace for the borough.

MR. RICHARD T. SIMPSON, chemist, 60 North Road, Lancaster, has declined re-election as Secretary of the Lancaster Photographic Society, a position which he has filled with credit for twelve years.

SIR WILLIAM RAMSAY, K.C.B., F.R.S., is visiting Copenhagen on the invitation of the Danish Physical Society. He visited the Polytechnic on Monday, and spoke to the students in Danish; he also visited the Finsen Light Cure Institute, and in the evening inaugurated the Physical Society with an address on "The Inert Gases of the Atmosphere."

MR. HERBERT FRANK COOK, J.P., chemist and druggist, New Chesterton, Cambridge, has been elected an Alderman of the Cambridge Borough Council. The new Alderman takes a keen interest in public affairs. He has for eighteen years been a member of the Chesterton Borough Council, and Vice-Chairman and Chairman of that body; also a member of the Board of Guardians for the same period, and a County Councillor for fourteen years. Mr. Cook was apprenticed to Mr. E. Field, Cambridge, studied at Muter's, passed the Minor examination in April 1885, and had excellent experience in London suburbs and Brighton before commencing in business at New Chesterton in 1887.

MR. H. N. FELIX-COOK, the Fairchild scholar for 1911-12, was successful in passing the Minor examination in London this week. Mr. Cook took his course of instruction at the South of England College of Pharmacy, and at the sessional examination was successful also in winning the silver medal of the College and the bronze medals in pharmacy and chemistry.



ALDERMAN COOK.

TRADE NOTES.

UNITED CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION, LTD.—In our report of the annual meeting (*C. & D.*, March 30, index folio 471) it was stated that the membership of the company is 381. Mr. Harold Miller, the Chairman, informs us that the trade of 1911 was done with 381 members, but the actual number on the date of the meeting was 485.

"**POULTOGEN**" is the name of a new aseptic poultice which retains its heat for twenty-four hours. The basis is levigated calcined siliceous earth with antiseptic agents, on an iodine compound, and the manufacturers have addressed typewritten letters containing full information about "Poultogen" to every doctor and veterinary surgeon in the Kingdom. It is put up in 1s., 2s., and 3s. tins, and is made by the Poultogen Co., 28 Market Street, Manchester.

BURGOYNE'S COUNTER REQUISITES.—The new catalogue of counter requisites for the pharmacy issued by Messrs. Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co., Coleman Street, London, E.C., now extends to nearly a hundred pages (9½ in. by 7½ in.). It is handsomely got up, and nearly all the articles are illustrated. The index includes prices as well as names of the articles contained in the list. The catalogue is one well worthy of a place among the lists which the chemist keeps by him for ready reference.

EASTER HOLIDAYS.—Mr. A. Berliner, 15 and 17 Worship Street, London, E.C., is closing his warehouse from Thursday evening, April 4, to Tuesday morning, April 9.—Messrs. Duncan, Flockhart & Co., 143 Farringdon Road, London, E.C., are closing their establishment from Good Friday to Easter Monday inclusive.—Messrs. F. Newbery & Sons, Ltd., are closed for business from Good Friday to Easter Monday inclusive.—Messrs. Thomas Tyrer & Co., Ltd., Sterling Chemical Works, Stratford, London E., will be closed from Thursday evening (April 4) until Tuesday morning (April 9).

THE WEEDICIDE AND SHEEP-DIP SEASON is now close at hand, and Messrs. Tomlinson & Hayward, Ltd., of Lincoln, are sending out to their customers useful literature in connection therewith. A little 48 page brochure (5 in. by 4 in.) entitled "Chemistry in the Garden and Greenhouse" contains just the kind of information that the amateur gardener finds it difficult to get hold of, and the chemist who distributes these makes customers and friends. It is a good time now to overhaul stocks of dips preparatory to the coming dipping season. Messrs. Tomlinson & Hayward will be pleased to send particulars of their preparations and pamphlets, etc., to any of our readers who write to them.

SALINES.—Messrs. Davies, Sons & Co., manufacturing chemists, Bridge Street, Derby, who are specialising in salines, have sent us samples of the new styles for the season which is just opening. There are various packings, and one of these, the Scout Health Saline, in square tins, is pleasantly flavoured with lemon, and after effervescence gives a cloudy solution, which is with a large section of the public looked upon as a distinct advantage. The round tins, enamelled in colour and with lever lids, labelled "Liver-salt" or "Health-salt," are both well-made salines, and are packed with care. The bottled granular effervescent citrate is also nicely packed, the stoppers being hermetically sealed with viscose caps, thus ensuring that the contents remain in a condition of freshness for a long time. Assorted styles are supplied in the same order, and showcards are offered.

CORVUSINE D.G. is the name of a harmless seed-dressing manufactured by Mr. Arthur E. Hawker, 59 Mark Lane, London, E.C., which is intended to prevent birds from eating the seed-corn at sowing-time. It is a liquid preparation having a tar basis, and is treated in such a way as to prevent it from interfering with the germinating properties of the seed. Corvusine is very easily applied, it being only necessary to place the seed upon an even floor, and while it is being turned over with a shovel sprinkle it slowly. It has proved very effectual against the depredations of birds, as testified by the evidence of many farmers, and the cost works out at a mere 6d. per acre. It is particularly suited for sale by chemists, many of whom

in agricultural districts have readily taken it up, and Mr. Hawker will be pleased to supply trade terms and prices on application.

TWO NOVELTIES from the laboratories of Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd., Liverpool, and 60 Bartholomew Close, London, E.C., are represented in the subjoined engravings. The vanishing cream is a pearl-white paste,



cooler than cold-cream and not greasy, which is emollient to the skin and delightfully fragrant. It is put up in opal pots with aluminium screw-top, and enclosed in violet-coloured carton with Naiad pictures in green and lettering in white. It retails at 1s., and costs 7s. 6d. per dozen. The white borated talcum powder is in the Wedgwood series of this company's specialities. It is impalpable, nicely scented, and a generous shilling's worth (5s. 9d. a dozen). The dredger is protected by a hinged lid. It will be noticed that the retailer's name and address can be printed on these.

British Pharmaceutical Conference.

MR. THOS. STEPHENSON, F.R.S.E., Hon. Local Secretary, 137 George Street, Edinburgh, informs us that with a view to facilitating the engagement of accommodation for the Edinburgh meeting in July, the Local Committee have prepared a list of hotels, boarding-houses, and approved apartments for the guidance of members, a copy of which can be obtained from him on application.

All the committees are now busily engaged in connection with the meeting. The Lord Provost, magistrates, and Town Council have unanimously decided to give a civic reception to the members of the Conference on Monday, July 29. Now that this has been definitely fixed, the other items on the programme have been arranged, and it is hoped to have the pink circular ready in a few weeks' time.

Mr. David Brown, of Willowbrae House, has invited the Conference to a garden-party on Tuesday afternoon, and the Carnegie Trust have extended an invitation to the members to tea and music in the beautiful Pittencrieff Glen, Dunfermline, on Wednesday afternoon.

As the Monday following the Conference will be Bank Holiday, it is expected that a large number of members will stay over the week-end, and for this reason golf matches are being arranged to take place at all the principal golf courses, which will be placed at the disposal of members. There will also be one or two extra excursions for the ladies, the details of which have not yet been decided upon.

Several members of the Committee of the Conference have inspected the University Union buildings, with a view to arranging details of some of the functions. The members of the Conference are to be made honorary members of the Union for the week, and will possess all the privileges of membership during that period. In addition to the hall for meetings and for lunch, there are large reading-rooms, committee-rooms, smoking-rooms, billiard-rooms, etc.—indeed, all the appointments of a first-class club. A feature which will be of interest to the members of the Conference is the photographic dark-room, which is fitted up with all the latest appliances, and which will be at the disposal of members.

A useful list of hotels, boarding-houses, and approved apartments has been prepared for the benefit of those wishing to book in advance, and it is recommended that, where possible, this precaution should be taken. Copies of this list will be supplied on application to Mr. Stephenson.

WESTMINSTER WISDOM.

The Week in Parliament.

PRESERVATIVES IN CREAM.

Mr. Burns, President of the Local Government Board, is still being questioned about the new regulations, and is to be asked to receive a deputation after the Easter recess from the Society of Cream-sellers.

HYPNOTISM IN MEDICINE.

The Home Secretary has informed Mr. Gibbs, M.P., that he does not see his way at present to introducing legislation prohibiting the exercise of hypnotism on patients for fee or reward by any person, whether they be Christian Scientists or those who style themselves healers or practitioners, unless they are duly registered and qualified medical practitioners.

EFFECT OF ELECTRIC LIGHT ON THE EYES.

Mr. Wedgwood Benn, M.P., informed Sir Reginald Pole Carew in the House of Commons on April 1 that the First Commissioner of Works is taking the opinion of an oculist as to whether, under certain conditions, electric light is more fatiguing to the eyes than gas light. Nothing will be done regarding the installation of any new system of lighting the House of Commons until the oculist's report has been received.

BANKRUPTCY LAW REFORM.

A special committee of the Association of Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom has been appointed for the purpose of pressing upon the Government such amendments to this Bill in regard to which there is common agreement. Among those on the committee are Lord Rotherham, Lord Southwark, Sir Albert Rollit, Sir Algernon Firth, Sir William Priestley, M.P., and Sir Edward Fithian (who was a member of the Departmental Committee).

THE TINNED-FOOD TRADE.

Colonel Seely has informed Mr. G. H. Roberts, M.P., that there is no information at the War Office, and no complaint has been received that the girls employed in the lifting and labelling of tinned food by the proprietors of "Oxo" contractors to the Department, are paid a wage of only 12s. per week of fifty-two hours. If the hon. member would furnish him with details of any specific cause for complaint of any infringement of the Fair Wages Clause the matter should be inquired into.

BASTOL.

Mr. Runciman, replying to a question by Mr. Bathurst on Tuesday, April 2, said that in the cases in which an analysis of bastol has either been submitted to or obtained by the Board of Agriculture, the percentages of oil and albuminoids were considerably less than those stated by Mr. Bathurst (1 and 1.93 per cent.), and it did not appear that they had any feeding value. No useful purpose would have been served by the institution of proceedings for neglect to include particulars of those percentages in the invoice.

SHOPS BILL.

In the House of Commons on March 27 the Bill to consolidate the Shops Regulations Acts was brought from the Lords for second reading. The Home Secretary said he had to ask the indulgence of the House in order to get the second reading and other stages of the Bill at that sitting as the circumstances were exceptional. The Bill was a mere consolidating measure, and contained no amendment of the law, but the position was urgent. They desired to get the Bill through all its stages in view of the fact that the Act of last Session would come into operation on May 1. It was highly desirable that the local authorities should have the Acts before them in a consolidated form instead of having to consult half a dozen different Acts. The Bill was read a second time and passed through all its other stages, and received the Royal Assent on March 29.

THE BUDGET.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer made his annual statement on Tuesday, April 2. The surplus to the good

on the receipts and expenditure of 1911-12 was 6,545,000l. This is to be held as a Treasury reserve. He estimated that the receipts during 1912-13 will be 187,189,000l. and the expenditure 186,885,000l., leaving 304,000l. No change in taxation was proposed. In the course of the general debate which followed Mr. Wheler, on behalf of the agricultural community, appealed to the Chancellor to remove the duty on home-grown tobacco. He pointed out that this tobacco was only required for use as a fertiliser and disinfectant. The only difficulty in the way appeared to be on the part of the Government chemist, who is unable to find a satisfactory way of dealing with the situation.

PATENT MEDICINES.

Our Parliamentary correspondent is officially informed that the *personnel* of, and terms of reference to, the Select Committee will not be placed on the paper until after the Easter recess. The Committee will get to work with its investigations without undue delay. It is probable that, with intervals, the Committee will meet two days a week, and it is hoped that the inquiry may be brought to a close before the adjournment in August next. If not, it will go over to the autumn Session, which is now a well-recognised feature of the Parliamentary year.

Replying in the House of Commons on April 1 to Mr. A. Lynch's question as to breaking bulk of stamped medicines (see *C. & D.*, March 30, index folio 487), the Chancellor of the Exchequer stated that the hon. member's question raised several points of considerable difficulty, both as to law and as to policy. He feared they could not be adequately dealt with in reply to a question, but they might, he thought, be appropriately considered by the proposed Select Committee on Patent Medicines. Perhaps his hon. friend would communicate with the Home Secretary on the matter.

In reply to a question by Mr. Bathurst on Wednesday, April 3, the Home Secretary stated that he understood the names of the members of the Select Committee on Patent Medicines and the terms of reference thereto would be placed on the paper shortly after Easter. Mr. Lynch asked the right hon. gentleman to take note in making the appointments that the real thing is to have a Committee which will elucidate the whole question instead of burying it. Mr. McKenna replied in the affirmative.

COLLEGE NOTES.

WESTMINSTER COLLEGE OF PHARMACY.—Fifty-two students of this College (including eight lady pupils) visited Messrs. Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co.'s chemical-manufacturing laboratories at East Ham on March 21, when a most profitable afternoon was spent in inspecting the various processes in operation. These included the drying of ammonium sulphate by centrifugal force, preparation and crystallisation of potassium iodide, the making of effervescent granules, sweet spirit of nitre, hydrobromic acid, various extracts, syrup of tolu, and ointments. The various drug-mills, stampers, drum sieves, vacuum distillation apparatus, and the alcohol-recovery apparatus were in full swing. An excellent tea was provided by the firm for their visitors. The Principal (Mr. G. S. V. Wills) thanked the firm and the members of the staff for their courtesy.

POISONOUS SUBSTANCES IN FOOD.—H.M. Consul at Stockholm has forwarded to the Board of Trade a copy of the Swedish Poison Code of 1906, together with copies of amending decrees of 1907, 1910, and 1911. The Code tells what substances may not be used in food, and may be inspected at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73 Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

The clinical thermometer now forms part of the medicine-chest in many English homes. One medical man was frequently called in by a lady because the temperature of her child had gone up. The little patient's temperature had, however, almost invariably become normal again by the time the doctor arrived. On one occasion he was looking in bewilderment at the mother's clinical, which had not been shaken down and registered well above normal, when the lady remarked, "By the way, doctor, I suppose it doesn't make any difference, but I generally warm the thermometer before using it. He is so delicate, you know."

The Shops Act, 1912.

THIS measure consolidates the six Acts of Parliament relating to the regulation of employment in shops, including the 1911 Act. It comes into force on May 1, 1912. The nature of the Act is explained, section by section, in an Editorial article. We append the text of those sections which directly affect chemists and other shopkeepers. The Editorial article explains the changes, but we may note here that Section 1 is the same section as the 1911 one *plus* other provisions from that Act; Section 2 is from the 1892, 1895, and 1911 Acts; Section 4 was Section 2 of the 1911 Act down to Sub-section 5, then comes an important alteration on Sub-section 6 (noted Editorially), and the other sub-sections were sections of the 1911 Act. Section 5 is made up of three sections of the 1904 Act.

HOURS OF EMPLOYMENT AND MEAL TIMES.

1.—(1) On at least one week day in each week a shop assistant shall not be employed about the business of a shop after half past one o'clock in the afternoon:

Provided that this provision shall not apply to the week preceding a bank holiday if the shop assistant is not employed on the bank holiday, and if on one week day in the following week in addition to the bank holiday the employment of the shop assistant ceases not later than half-past one o'clock in the afternoon.

(2) The occupier of a shop shall fix, and shall specify in a notice in the prescribed form, which must be affixed in the shop in such manner and at such time as may be prescribed, the day of the week on which his shop assistants are not employed after half-past one o'clock, and may fix different days for different shop assistants.

(3) Intervals for meals shall be allowed to each shop assistant in accordance with the First Schedule to this Act:

Provided that this provision shall not apply to a shop if the only persons employed as shop assistants are members of the family of the occupier of the shop, maintained by him, and dwelling in his house.

(4) In the case of any contravention of, or failure to comply with, the provisions of this section, the occupier of the shop shall be guilty of an offence, etc. [penalties as in Section 4 (7)].

HOURS OF EMPLOYMENT OF YOUNG PERSONS.

2.—(1) No person under the age of eighteen years (in this Act referred to as a "young person") shall be employed in or about a shop for a longer period than seventy-four hours, including meal-times, in any one week.

(2) No young person shall, to the knowledge of the occupier of the shop, be employed in or about a shop—

(a) having been previously on the same day employed in any factory or workshop, as defined by the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, for the number of hours permitted by that Act; or

(b) for a longer period than will, together with the time during which he has been previously employed on the same day in a factory or workshop, complete such number of hours as aforesaid.

(3) In every shop in which a young person is employed a notice shall be kept exhibited by the occupier of the shop in a conspicuous place referring to the provisions of this section and stating the number of hours in the week during which a young person may lawfully be employed in or about the shop.

(4) Where a young person is employed in or about a shop contrary to the provisions of this section, the occupier of the shop shall be guilty of an offence against this Act, and liable to a fine not exceeding 1*l.*, or, where more than one young person is so employed, 1*l.* for each young person, and, if the occupier of a shop fails to comply with the provisions of this section with respect to notices, he shall be guilty of an offence against this Act, and liable to a fine not exceeding 40*s.*

(5) This section shall apply to wholesale shops, and to warehouses in which assistants are employed for hire, in like manner as if they were shops within the meaning of this Act, and the provisions of Sections 13 and 14 of this Act shall, for the purposes of the enforcement of this section, be construed accordingly.

(6) This section shall not apply to any person wholly employed as a domestic servant.

CLOSING OF SHOPS ON WEEKLY HALF-HOLIDAY.

4.—(1) Every shop shall, save as otherwise provided by this Act, be closed for the serving of customers not later than one o'clock in the afternoon on one week day in every week.

(2) The local authority may, by order, fix the day on which a shop is to be so closed (in this Act referred to as

"the weekly half-holiday"), and any such order may either fix the same day for all shops, or may fix—

- (a) different days for different classes of shops; or
- (b) different days for different parts of the district; or
- (c) different days for different periods of the year:

Provided that—

(i) where the day fixed is a day other than Saturday, the order shall provide for enabling Saturday to be substituted for such other day; and

(ii) where the day fixed is Saturday, the order shall provide for enabling some other day specified in the order to be substituted for Saturday;

as respects any shop in which notice to that effect is affixed by the occupier, and that no such order shall be made unless the local authority after making such inquiry as may be prescribed are satisfied that the occupiers of a majority of each of the several classes of shops affected by the order approve the order.

(3) Unless and until such an order is made affecting a shop, the weekly half-holiday as respects the shop shall be such day as the occupier may specify in a notice affixed in the shop, but it shall not be lawful for the occupier of the shop to change the day oftener than once in any period of three months.

(4) Where the local authority have reason to believe that a majority of the occupiers of shops of any particular class in any area are in favour of being exempted from the provisions of this section, either wholly or by fixing as the closing hour instead of one o'clock some other hour not later than two o'clock, the local authority, unless they consider that the area in question is unreasonably small, shall take steps to ascertain the wishes of such occupiers, and, if they are satisfied that a majority of the occupiers of such shops are in favour of the exemption, or, in the case of a vote being taken, that at least one-half of the votes recorded by the occupiers of shops within the area of the class in question are in favour of the exemption, the local authority shall make an order exempting the shops of that class within the area from the provisions of this section either wholly or to such extent as aforesaid.

(5) Where a shop is closed during the whole day on the occasion of a bank holiday, and that day is not the day fixed for the weekly half-holiday, it shall be lawful for the occupier of the shop to keep the shop open for the serving of customers after the hour at which it is required under this section to be closed either on the half-holiday immediately preceding, or on the half-holiday immediately succeeding, the bank holiday.

(6) This section shall not apply to any shop in which the only trade or business carried on is trade or business of any of the classes mentioned in the Second Schedule to this Act, but the local authority may, by order made and revocable in the manner hereinafter provided with respect to closing orders, extend the provisions of this section to shops of any class exempted under this provision if satisfied that the occupiers of at least two-thirds of the shops of that class approve the order.

(7) In the case of any contravention of or failure to comply with any of the provisions of this section, the occupier of the shop shall be guilty of an offence against this Act, and shall be liable to a fine not exceeding—

(a) in the case of a first offence, 1*l.*;

(b) in the case of a second offence, 5*l.*; and

(c) in the case of a third or subsequent offence, 10*l.*;

Provided that the occupier of a shop shall not be guilty of an offence against this Act when a customer is served at any time at which the shop is required to be closed under this section if he proves either that the customer was in the shop before the time when the shop was required to be closed, or that there was reasonable ground for believing that the article supplied to the customer was required in the case of illness.

(8) Nothing in this section shall prevent customers from being served at a time when the shop in which they are sold is required to be closed with victuals, stores, or other necessities for a ship, on her arrival at or immediately before her departure from a port.

CLOSING ORDERS.

5.—(1) An order (in this Act referred to as "a closing order") made by a local authority, and confirmed by the Secretary of State in manner provided by this Act, may fix the hours on the several days of the week at which, either throughout the area of the local authority or in any specified part thereof, all shops or shops of any specified class are to be closed for serving customers.

(2) The hour fixed by a closing order (in this Act referred to as "the closing hour") shall not be earlier than 7 o'clock in the evening on any day of the week.

(3) The order may—

(a) define the shops and trades to which the order applies; and

(b) authorise sales after the closing hour in cases of emergency and in such other circumstances as may be specified or indicated in the order; and

(c) contain any incidental, supplemental, or consequential provisions which may appear necessary or proper.

(4) Nothing in a closing order shall apply to any shop in which the only trade or business carried on is trade or business of any one of the classes mentioned in the Third Schedule to this Act.

(5) If any person contravenes the provisions of a closing order, he shall be guilty of an offence against this Act, and liable to a fine not exceeding—

(a) in the case of a first offence, 1*l.*;

(b) in the case of a second offence, 5*l.*; and

(c) in the case of a third or subsequent offence, 20*l.*:

Provided that nothing in this section or in any closing order shall render a person liable to any penalty for serving after the closing hour any customer who was in the shop before the closing hour.

The Act is published by his Majesty's Stationery Office, and may be purchased for 3*d.*, either directly or through any bookseller, from Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32 Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Oliver & Boyd, Tweeddale Court, Edinburgh; or E. Ponsonby, Ltd., 116 Grafton Street, Dublin.

THE REGULATIONS.

Mr. McKinnon Wood informed Mr. Ponsonby in the House of Commons on Wednesday, April 3, that the issue of regulations to local authorities in Scotland, prescribing methods of inquiry under the Shops Act, 1911, has been delayed pending the passing into law of the Shops Act, 1912, which has just received Royal Assent. It was intimated that regulations would be issued forthwith, and that these would supersede those of February 20, 1905, and November 6, 1908.

National Health Insurance.

"A DESIRE FOR A TRUCE."

Medical men have been very quiet recently in regard to the medical-benefit provisions of the National Insurance Act. The "British Medical Journal," referring to Mr. Masterman's recent statement that the Insurance Commissioners may find it possible to meet the demands of the medical profession by regulations to be made under the Act, states that the British Medical Association shares this hope, having nominated members to serve on the Joint Advisory Committee to be appointed by the Insurance Commissioners. Our contemporary adds:

"There appears, therefore, to be a desire for a truce, but it must not be a one-sided arrangement, and the body calling itself the Liberal Insurance Committee may fairly be invited to restrain its lecturers from making provocative speeches against the medical profession in the course of their mission to explain the advantages of the insurance scheme to audiences up and down the country."

DISPENSING UNDER THE ACT.

The "British Medical Journal" printed in its Supplement last week the letter by Mr. J. F. Tocher, to which reference was made in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* several weeks ago, regarding the provisions of the Act which separate the prescribing and dispensing of medicines. Mr. Tocher wrote the letter in consequence of the resolution of the Representative meeting of the British Medical Association to the effect that, in the event of the Act being amended, provision should be made in it to enable doctors to dispense as well as prescribe remedies. Our contemporary deals with the letter editorially, and the following are excerpts from the rather "windy" remarks:

The Representative Meeting, while claiming the right of medical practitioners to continue dispensing as at present, wished to make it plain that they would not be guilty of underselling the pharmacists, but would be willing to adopt the same scale of charges as pharmacists generally consider reasonable for medicines supplied to the insured.

The resolution of the Representative Meeting has frequently been wrongly interpreted as meaning that the profession was willing and desirous to give up dispensing; though that may be true in certain districts, it is not true as regards the great bulk of general practitioners. The objection of the Representative Meeting was not to dis-

persing, but to supplying material requirements at the same inclusive fee as professional services.

Mr. Lloyd George's idea of a complete "separation of the drugs and the doctors" . . . has never been advocated by the Representative Meeting. It happens too often that any prescription given to patients is used time after time when it is perhaps out of place, and is often handed round to neighbours and friends and used for all sorts of diseases which may really need very different remedies.

The argument that the insured should have free choice of pharmacist, in the same way as they have free choice of doctor, may be accepted when there is need for them to go to any pharmacist; but if a patient does not trust his medical attendant to give him proper medicines, he should choose another doctor.

The profession has no desire to interfere with any established right of pharmacists, but it will strongly resent any attempt by pharmacists to usurp what is the undoubted right of medical men to dispense their own medicines, when they think proper, for their own patients.

MR. GLYN-JONES ON THE ACT.

The Conference Room of the National Liberal Club, Whitehall Place, London, S.W., was crowded on Monday evening, April 1, when Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones, M.P., gave a lecture to lecturers on the provisions of the Act. Mr. Hammond, who presided, in introducing Mr. Glyn-Jones, said that "no man in England had made a greater study of the Act than he had done." The address dealt in the broadest outline with the benefits of the Act and its principal provisions, and was reported in "The Times" and other morning papers on Tuesday. Mr. Glyn-Jones has much improved as a speaker, and on this particular subject he is very fluent, for he confessed that he has given more than fifty addresses on the subject. At the end of the lecture questions were invited. These were put chiefly by members of the audience who appeared to be artisans, and it was notable that the questions were on everyday rather than on academic difficulties. The heckling occupied fully half an hour, and the whole proceedings two hours.

TRADE-MARKS.

Objections to the registration of any of the undermentioned applications must be stated on Form T.M. No. 7 (obtainable at Money Order Offices for £1) and lodged with Mr. Temple Franks, Comptroller-General, Patents Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., within one month of the dates mentioned.

The figures in parentheses refer to the classes in which the marks are desired.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," March 13, 1912.)

"REGAL": for chemicals (1 and 2), medicinal chemicals (3), scientific instruments, etc. (8), surgical instruments, etc. (11), glass bottles (15), earthenware (16), infants' and invalids' foods (42), mineral and aerated waters (44), brushes and combs (50). By Boot's Pure Drug Co., Ltd., 37 Station Street, Nottingham. 337,797/8, 337,087, 337,799/801, 337,088, 337,090, 337,804/5.

"VIVUS": for chemicals (1), goods (48). By R. Lane Hall & Co., 4 Lloyd's Avenue, London, E.C. 339,353/4.

"FUMOTH": for fumigating and moth-destroying preparations, etc. (2). By J. B. Parnall, 64 Mark Lane, London, E.C. 337,838.

Octagonal and oblong labels with letters "C I B A": for all goods (2). By Society of Chemical Industry in Basle, 141 Klybeckstrasse, Basle. 338,094, 338,096.

"HANDPRINT" and picture of same: for disinfectant soap (2) and medicated soaps (3). By J. Crosfield & Sons, Ltd., Bank Quay, Warrington. 338,521/2.

"VI-TAS": for disinfectants (2). By J. H. Keyser, 87 Noel Street, Nottingham. 338,948.

"GARDENALITIES": for horticultural chemicals (2). By Robinson Bros., Ltd., Phoenix Street, Ryders Green, West Bromwich. 338,851.

"REGESAN": for chemicals (2), surgical instruments, etc. (11), food-substances (42), perfumery, etc. (48), brushes (50). By Regesan, Ltd., 7A Laurence Pountney Hill, London, E.C. 339,618, 339,620, 339,625, 339,627.

"GEL": for a water-purifying chemical (2). By Myer Coplans, 8 Ashwood Villas, Cumberland Road, Headingley, Leeds. 339,910.

"ALIVAL," "CAMPHENIN," and "HEXOPHAN": for medicinal chemicals (3). By Meister, Lucius & Brüning, Hoechst a/Main, Germany. 338,473, 338,476, 338,478.

- "NER-VIX"; for medicinal powders. By J. H. Cooper, 62 Westbourne Road, Huddersfield. 339,317.
- Label devices with words "VALDA PASTILLES"; for medicated pastilles (3). By H. Canonne, 13-15 Hythe Road, Willesden Junction, N.W. 339,336.
- "FRANGA-FEN," "FRANGAFENO," "FRANGOREFEN," "LOTELA," "REVENOKASK," "ZINDAMILIN," "ZINDAMIL LOTELA," "ZINSALAMIL LOTELA," and "ZINSALAMILIN"; for medicines (3). By M. E. Trayser, 66-68 Shoe Lane, London, E.C. 339,573/81.
- "CAPAMINT"; for all goods (3). By E. N. Jackson, 87 Dickson Road, North Shore, Blackpool. 339,983.
- "A LA GAVOITE, WONDERFUL," with picture of lady and gentleman dancing; for food-substances (42), perfumery, etc. (48). By E. J. Boisselet, 26 Avenue de l'Opéra, Paris. 338,894/5.
- "TELEPHONE"; for a face-cream (48). By O. Harley, II. D. Cashmore, and J. Ward, 40 Conduit Street, London, W. 338,648.
- "SILVER-CLOUD" and label device of same, with words "Every Cloud has a Silver Lining"; for all goods (48). By C. Flint, 269 Brownhill Road, Catford, S.E. 337,611.
- "MERCOLIZED"; for a toilet-cream (48). By Dearborn, Ltd., 32 Theobald's Road, London, W.C. 339,444.
- "BATHODOMES"; for perfumery, etc. (48). By H. Brommley & Co., Ltd., Warple Way, Uxbridge Road, London. 339,775.
- "EVERFAST"; for tooth-brushes (50). By R. Addis & Son, 9 London Place, London Fields, London. 333,023.
- (From the "Trade-marks Journal," March 20, 1912.)
- "ERVECO"; for chemicals (1). By R. Wedekind & Co., Augusta Strasse 2, Uerdingen-on-the-Rhine. 337,705.
- "HUG" in black and white circular device; for all goods (1 and 3). By Holzverkohlungs-Industrie-Aktiengesellschaft, Reichenaustrasse 13/17, Constance, Baden. 339,710/1.
- "ACORN BRAND" with picture of same, for chemicals (1); and "WHEEL BRAND" with picture of same, for medicated soap and glycerin (3). By W. Gossage & Sons, Ltd., Widnes, Lancs. 340,095, 340,092.
- "SOLVEX"; for all goods (2). By C. E. Challis, 2 and 4 Mount Pleasant, London, W.C. 338,810.
- Label devices with word "FORMAMINT"; for medicinal tablets (3). By A. Wulff & Co., 12 Chenies Street, London. 335,409.
- "LUMIXAL"; for a sedative and hypnotic medicine (3). By Bayer Co., Ltd., 20 Booth Street, Manchester. 337,916.

WILLS PROVEN.

DR. FRANCIS THOS. BOND, M.D., M.A., F.R.S.E., F.C.S., 3 Beaufort Buildings, Gloucester, who died on December 5 last, left estate of the gross value of 3,142*l.*, with net personalty *nil*.

MR. GEORGE WILTON, Regent Square, Doncaster (Chairman of George Wilton, Son & Co., Ltd., drug-grinders, sauce and baking-powder manufacturers), who died on December 19 last, left estate valued at 2,530*l.* 14*s.* 1*d.* gross, with net personalty *nil*.

POISONING FATALITIES.

SEVEN fatalities with poisons were reported since our issue of last week up to Wednesday night. Of these two deaths were due to mis-adventure.

Carbolic Acid.—At Coatbridge, a young couple named Janet Brown (17) and Archibald Syme (19) were taken to the Alexander Hospital suffering from carbolic-acid poisoning. The girl died shortly after admission, and the youth on the following day.

Oxalic Acid caused the accidental death of James Edwin Morris, pianoforte fitter, Tottenham, London, N.—Charles Lambert (34), shop assistant, killed himself at Brixton with this poison.

Phosphorus.—Alice Bishop (19), domestic servant, of Plaistow, committed suicide, while mentally unbalanced owing to love-troubles, by taking a solution of rat-poison containing phosphorus.

Potassium Cyanide.—James Mackenzie Bremner (46), insurance broker, West Kensington, poisoned himself by mis-adventure with this chemical.

Rat-poison, purchased from a local chemist, was used to effect self-destruction by Mary E. Goulding (36) at Winsford.

Society of Chemical Industry.

London Section.

A MEETING was held at Burlington House, Piccadilly, W., on April 1, Mr. E. Grant Hooper in the chair. The Chairman announced that Mr. G. T. Holloway had been elected Chairman of the Section, Mr. J. H. Coste had been re-elected Secretary and Treasurer, and the following elected to fill the five vacancies on the committee: Messrs. W. J. A. Butterfield, C. A. Keane, T. D. Merson, W. F. Reid, and J. C. Umney. The Chairman regretted that Mr. Holloway was too unwell to be present, but he is making satisfactory progress to complete recovery. He referred also to the death of Mr. John Pattinson, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Mr. T. Tyrer, now a somewhat infrequent visitor to the Section meetings, asked permission of the Chairman to express gratification at the election of Mr. Holloway. In a reminiscent mood Mr. Tyrer told how that, sixty-two years ago, he entered into technology as then understood in a suburb of London. That was at Battersea, where Whistler and Carlyle lived. Carlyle used to wander in the district, mumbling and growling, and, added Mr. Tyrer, "I have had some of his growls." A stranger in the great City, he (Mr. Tyrer) one day wandered into a place of worship, where the hand of friendship was held out to him by a good man, who invited him to his house and hospitality. That man was Mr. Holloway's father, one of the leading lights of his time in practical teaching. Some time afterwards young Holloway was born, and he (Mr. Tyrer) saw him as soon as the conventionalities of life permitted. He has watched Mr. Holloway's career ever since, and looked upon it as an honour to bear testimony to the fact that there exists no more true and loyal member of the Society of Chemical Industry than Mr. G. T. Holloway.

SULPHURIC-ACID THEORIES.—Mr. W. C. Reynolds then read a paper by himself and Mr. W. H. Taylor on the theory of sulphuric-acid manufacture. This referred to Raschig's paper before the Section in 1911 and Dr. Divers' expansion of Raschig's theory. The authors held that the older views in regard to the formation of sulphuric acid in the lead-chamber represent substantially what really goes on in the chambers.

ESTIMATION OF SULPHIDES.—Mr. J. R. Blockey next read a paper by himself and Mr. P. B. Mehd on the estimation of sulphides in lime liquors. This referred to the leather industry, sodium sulphide being added to the lime-bath to facilitate dehairing of the hides. Among the points brought out was that the quickest method of estimating the sulphide is volumetrically with zinc sulphate in excess of ammonium chloride, to prevent the precipitation of hydroxide. It is found that the activity of the depilatory is due to calcium hydroxy-sulphate $[\text{Ca}(\text{SH})(\text{OH})]$. In the discussion Dr. Gilbert Parker mentioned that when the lime is slacked with the solution of sodium sulphide a more active preparation results.

Nottingham Section.

THE annual meeting of the Section was held at University College, Nottingham, on March 27, Mr. S. R. Trotman in the chair. Among those present were Messrs. Dunford, Harvey, Law, Merriman, Dr. Sand, and Messrs. Pentecost, Wilkie, Wood, and Wright. Congratulations were extended to Mr. L. Archbutt on his election to the Presidency of the Society of Public Analysts and to Mr. J. T. Wood, who is now a Vice-President of the Society of Chemical Industry. The officers for the ensuing year were re-elected as follows: Chairman, Mr. S. R. Trotman; Vice-Chairman and Hon. Treasurer, Mr. S. J. Pentecost; Hon. Secretary, Dr. H. J. S. Sand; and committee, Messrs. L. Archbutt, J. H. Dunford, J. Golding, T. F. Harvey, Dr. F. S. Kipping, Messrs. D. J. Law, J. M. C. Paton, W. G. Timmans, John White, J. M. Wilkie, and J. T. Wood.

Mr. S. R. Trotman, the Chairman, read a note on the Water-content of Bread, the point of which was the absurdity of insisting upon bread being sold by weight without at the same time fixing a standard for water.

Contracts.

NOTIFICATION has been made of the settlement of the following contracts:

Aberystwyth Guardians.—Mr. E. P. Wynne, chemist, Aberystwyth, for disinfectants.

Alresford Guardians.—Mr. H. Goddard Dutton, chemist, Southampton, for infirmiry dressings and requisites.

Barnstaple Guardians.—Goaman & Son, for invalid bevril, at 4s. 7d. per lb.; Mr. E. W. Proudman, chemist, Barnstaple, for cod-liver oil, at 5s. 4d. per gal., and quinine, at 1s. 5d. per oz.

Barrow-in-Furness Guardians.—North-Western Drug Co., for the supply of drugs.

Belper Guardians.—Jas. Calvert & Son, chemists, Belper, for drugs.

Bolton Guardians.—Joseph Taylor & Co., Ltd., Bolton, for disinfectants and druggists' sundries; Wareing Bros. & Co., Bolton, for disinfecting-fluid.

Bury St. Edmund's Guardians.—Nunn, Hinnell & Clark, chemists, Bury St. Edmund's, for drugs, etc.

Cambridge Town Council.—Mr. E. W. Mess, chemist, Cambridge, for drugs and disinfectants; Goodall & Co., for formalin tablets.

Cheadle and Gatley Urban Council.—Sanitas Co., Ltd., for disinfectants.

Cheltenham Guardians.—Ferris & Co., Ltd., Bristol, for drugs at 15 per cent. off catalogue prices, and for surgical dressings; Mr. W. H. Hill, chemist, Cheltenham, extra dispensing and emergency sundries for a year.

Chester Guardians.—Mr. J. W. Huke, chemist, Chester, for the supply of drugs for the workhouse for the ensuing six months, at 39l. 4s. 10d.

Clitheroe Guardians.—Mr. J. Harrison, chemist, Clitheroe, for the half-yearly supply of drugs and dressings.

Darlington Guardians.—Parkin, Ness & Co., Darlington, for disinfectants.

Derby Town Council.—R. Daniel & Son, Derby, for disinfectant-fluid; Sonax Disinfectant Co., disinfectant-powder, etc.

Eastry Guardians.—Mr. A. E. Woodruff, Eastry, for chemists' sundries.

Epping Guardians.—Mr. E. H. Slater, pharmacist, Epping, for chemists' goods.

Faversham Guardians.—Mr. T. J. Thomas, appointed chemist for six months.

Faversham Rural Council.—Mr. J. T. T. Rolfe, appointed chemist for six months.

Faversham Town Council.—Mr. T. J. Thomas, Faversham, appointed chemist for a year.

Gloucester Guardians.—Mr. G. Bartle and Mr. W. T. Slatter appointed emergency chemists for a year; Mr. W. Walwin, for drug supply.

Gravesend Guardians.—Mr. E. Millhouse, chemist, Gravesend, for druggists' goods.

Hemel Hempstead Guardians.—Mr. F. Chapman, chemist, Hemel Hempstead, for a six months' supply of surgical dressings.

Hemsworth Guardians.—Mr. G. Hodgson, chemist, Hemsworth, for drugs.

Heston and Isleworth Urban District Council.—Jeyes' Sanitary Compounds Co., Ltd., for annual supplies of disinfectants at 61l. 16s.

Holborn Borough Council.—Adcocks and The Sonax Disinfectant Co., for disinfectants, at approximate cost of 100l.

Lambeth Guardians.—Corbyn, Stacey & Co., Ltd., for drugs; S. Maw, Son & Sons, for druggists' sundries.

Loughborough Guardians.—Mr. J. S. Hepworth, Loughborough, appointed chemist for a year.

Macclesfield Education Committee.—W. & F. Walker, Ltd., Liverpool, for carbolic acid.

Malling (Kent) Guardians.—Hospitals and General Contract Co., for medical necessities.

Malling Guardians.—The Hospitals and General Contract Co., for a supply of medical necessities at 6l. 7s. 2d.

Northampton Guardians.—Mr. Gatehouse, Northampton, appointed chemist for a year.

Sittingbourne Urban Council.—Mr. R. Robinson, chemist, Sittingbourne, for disinfectants.

Tonbridge Guardians.—S. E. Haward & Co., Ltd., Tonbridge Wells, for disinfectants.

Watford Guardians.—Mr. J. P. Sholl, chemist, Watford, for a supply of surgical dressings.

Willesden Urban District Council.—Duncan, Flockhart & Co., Ltd., for an annual supply of drugs, etc.

Wolverhampton Union.—Corbyn, Stacey & Co., Ltd., drugs for the workhouse at 70l. 4s. 4½d. for quantity, and for the out-relief dispensary at 34l. 5s. 2d.; Hospitals and

General Contracts Co., Ltd., for 476 lb. absorbent wool, at 11l. 18s.; 14 lb. gauze tissue, 9s. 11d.; 236 lb. tow (No. 1), 2l. 9s. 5d.; Cuxson, Gerrard & Co., Ltd., for W.O.W. bandages, ¼ gross, 2 in., 2s. 6d.; 14 gross, 2½ in., 9l. 2s.; 11 gross, 3 in., 8l. 5s.; 1 gross, 4 in., 1l. W. G. Taylor, for 200 yards boric gauze, at 11s. 6d.; 300 yards cyanide of mercury and zinc gauze, 18s. 6d.; 200 yards iodoform gauze, 19s. 6d.; 400 yards unmedicated gauze, 1l. 1s. 4d.; 495 lb. absorbent lint, 25l. 5s. 4d.; 460 lb. boric lint, 17l. 5s.; 1 doz. domette bandages, 2s. 11d.; 112 lb. tow carbolic, 1l. 17s. 4d.; 1 yard best green oiled silk, 3s. 6d.

Worcester Guardians.—Anderson & Virgo, for drugs, etc.; Mr. T. Lunn (North district), Mr. A. J. R. Swanson (St. John's district), Mr. Hornblow (South district), and Anderson & Virgo (Workhouse and Cottage Homes) appointed chemists.

Wrexham Guardians.—Francis & Co., chemists, Wrexham, for the supply of drugs for six months, at 54l. 11s. 9d.



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C. & D. INFORMATION DEPARTMENT, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

Telegraphic Address: "CHEMICS LONDON."

Telephone No.: BANK 852 (two lines).

INFORMATION WANTED.

We would be obliged if any reader would inform us by post-card or telephone who are the makers or agents of the articles mentioned in the following inquiries:

- 130/53. Duncan's hat-polish.
- 123/46. "Uricoids": makers.
- 129/51. "Titan" belt: makers.
- 129/35. "Tortoise" soap: makers.
- 129/73. "Ako," a liquid depilatory.
- 129/34. "Nazalia" (price 2s. 6d.): supply.
- 129/17. "Coralis," for use in a perfume lamp.
- 129/59. Rost's bandages: makers or suppliers.
- 127/42. "Tangle" hairbrush (rubber tips, serrated).
- 127/40. Bridge's cod-liver oil and malt with phosphates.
- 130/20. "Almond Flour" and "Almond Bread" for diabetes.

INFORMATION SUPPLIED.

During the past week we have answered inquiries as to the makers or sellers of the following articles. The information will be repeated to other inquirers who send to this Department a stamped and addressed envelope for the purpose.

- Atophan, 126/51
- "Autotherm" flask, 125/63
- Barry's pearl cream, 123/44
- Barium chloride, 125/35
- Beeswax substitute (suitable for furniture-polish), 126/67.
- Capsogen, 132/510
- "Charmides" toilet preparations, 125/28
- "Coraline" preparations, 123/49
- Crème Simon (London agent), 127/69
- "Dialon," 127/41
- Electric belts, 126/38
- Emulsine, 124/71
- Extract Nutriens, 123/3
- Fancy-coloured tissue-paper, 123/54
- Fermentlactyl, 126/35
- "Grothine," 127/570
- Hair's asthma-cure, 129/600
- Hide and skin preservative, 127/57
- Hill's household ammonia, 122/69
- "Iglodine," 123/46
- "Isis" perfumes, 210/33
- Kephir pastilles, 126/300
- Lactagol, 129/6
- Lactucarium (Ang.), 126/54
- Macaura's pulscoon, 126/45
- Magic foot-drafts, 123/51
- Marchand's "Hydrozone," 124/41
- Menthol-cone makers, 123/19
- Midwifery bags, 126/38
- "Monbijou" perfume, 126/64
- Morton's specialities (Turkish inquiry), 127/71
- Mothaline, 122/66
- Popolia preparations, 127/16
- "Pyramid" fly-catcher, 123/63
- Rhycol, 123/50
- Salvene, 124/710
- "Squirrel" brand specialities, 124/73
- Tablet triturate moulds, 129/20
- "Tortoise" starch, 129/35
- "Toveena," 124/17
- Tucker's asthma-cure, 123/71
- Urodonal (Chatelain), 126/30
- Water-glass (packed in tins), 127/2
- White's devitalising fibre (dental), 125/54
- "Zero" pastilles, 129/50

OBSERVATIONS & REFLECTIONS

By Xrayser II.

The Proprietary-medicine Inquiry,

upon which a Select Committee of the House of Commons is about to embark, is, from the pharmacist's point of view, second in importance to the Insurance Act alone. Whatever the scope of the inquiry, it cannot but affect our interests in many ways, and if, as seems likely, the Privy Council's report of 1910 is to be its basis, grave injustice may be the result. The partisan character of that report is not likely to be so obvious to gentlemen of the House of Commons as to ourselves, though fortunately we have now one representative in the House who, if he is on the Committee, will see that it is not silently accepted as evidence against us. The evils attendant upon the trade in proprietaries are at least as keenly felt and as frankly acknowledged by pharmacists as by any section of the community; we do not wish to depend upon quackery for our livelihood, and it is as important to our material interests as to our self-respect that we should not be swamped by the constantly

Increasing Flood of "Patents";

for, as Madame de Staël said of Coleridge's conversation, it is not a stream, but an inundation. Perhaps as Englishmen we have a somewhat morbid dread of legislation restricting business of any kind, and your articles on the laws which in other countries regulate the sale of these medicines may have the effect of correcting our insular prejudices in this respect. They will at any rate be welcome, whether as models to follow or warnings what to avoid. Our recent experiences of pharmacy law-making have not been reassuring, and, much as we may sympathise with the object of the prospective inquiry, we shall watch the proceedings of the Committee with mixed feelings. The one thing we can and must do is to make plain the fact that we have no interest in deception and quackery; "picturesque hyperbole and flamboyant mendacity," so far from being "inseparable adjuncts" to our business, are its worst enemies, from the growing tyranny of which we are ready to accept even the doubtful defence of another Act of Parliament. It ought, however, to be directed against the real authors of the evil, and not against the harmless, necessary pharmacist.

Pharmacy Law,

about which I have been saying some hard things, is very largely judge-made law, which may or may not account for its anomalies. I had recently the pleasure of hearing a barrister in a humorous speech defend our law as a whole against what he called Mr. Bumble's injurious assertion, "the law is a ass," and I was tempted to adduce a few instances of the asinine character of many of the laws which regulate our particular industry. These are too familiar to your readers to need reproduction here, but I notice a decision reported last week which, however welcome it may be, does not increase one's respect for the law. It would appear from this decision that pills cannot be described as "good for disorders of the stomach" without being liable to stamp duty, but incur no such liability by being advertised as "Stomach Pills: safest, surest, and best." The distinction is exceedingly fine, and logically indefensible. It reduces legal proceedings to the level of a game of skill with an element of chance in it. In this case the fault does not lie with the magistrate, who only said what was already known to most pharmacists; but it is absurd, nevertheless, and its absurdity is increased by the fact that the prosecution was set on foot by one

Government department and quashed in accordance with the instruction of another.

The Art of Flavouring

is a new theme for pharmaceutical meetings, and a good exposition of the principles and potentialities was given in the paper communicated to the North British Branch, and I hope Mr. Crombie will follow up the highly suggestive ideas he has put forward, with definite examples of the way in which flavours can be graded and blended. The problem of disguising the taste of nauseous drugs is always present to the pharmacist, and it is really only in a minority of cases that we can claim to have much success. The difficulty of overcoming the bitterness of quinine was referred to by several of the speakers, and the uselessness of syrup of orange was freely admitted. Mr. Crombie himself prefers liquorice for quinine, but it must be borne in mind that liquorice is only suitable in suspensions of a quinine salt, which are well known to be much less bitter than actual solutions—of quinine sulphate, for instance. The reason why liquorice covers the taste of quinine is not, I think, its

Sweetness,

for to many people liquorice is most unpleasant. Nor is *yerba santa*, which also masks the quinine taste, itself sweet. The explanation may possibly be found in the selective action on the sensory nerves, exerted by these agents. Saccharin is often recommended, and is much used, as a flavour, but it is for some purposes quite unsuitable. It temporarily inhibits the faculty of tasting sweetness, probably by paralysing certain nerves of the taste-buds, just as the application of carbolic acid, even in a dilute ointment, on the nasal lining affects the sense of smell. Anyone can test this property of saccharin by allowing a tablet to dissolve on the tongue and taking a second tablet two minutes later. The first tablet tastes sweet, and the second has no sweetness at all, but only the harsh, acrid taste of alkali. Similarly the first mouthful of lemonade sweetened with saccharin is much sweeter than the second; in fact, if the beverage be taken slowly it becomes more acid with every successive mouthful. Sweetness may therefore be said to be a subjective experience quite as much as an objective quality.

"Art-criticism as a Side-line"

(if I may borrow the phrase from one of my critics) has hardly received as much attention from our advertisers as it deserves. We often see designs that violate almost every principle, however elementary, of decorative art. Even great artists sometimes commit faults in their pictures—Raphael himself is said to have distributed seven odd legs among four Apostles—but their occasional mistakes are redeemed by their greater qualities; work on a lower scale of values needs correctness in proportion to the humbleness of its aim. The best design does not always make the best advertisement, but an inappropriate or absurd design always makes a bad one. The object of the advertiser is not to excite criticism, but to recommend his wares, and this is best done by a pleasing presentation of them. Every design he employs should be as beautiful as possible, and, above all, it should have character. Perhaps the best advertisement ever put forth was Pears' "You dirty boy!" It is, however, rather of designs than of pictures or groups of statuary that I am thinking, for I fear that we have not improved so much, though we have greatly improved in late years, in pure designing as in pictorial art. Perhaps it is easier to draw a passably good picture than a really good design, which depends for its success upon less obvious qualities. May I, by way of point to these remarks, congratulate Messrs. Burgoyne, Burbridges & Co. upon the extremely beautiful border-design to their advertisement in your issue of March 30?

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| Ditto, Medium Crystals | 12/6 | Finest Levigated "WHITE EARTH" (Toilet purposes) | 18/ cwt. |
| FLOWERS OF SUL- PHUR , Finest English | 13/6 cwt. | | |
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LIQUORS

Editorial Articles.

A New Shops Act.

ROYAL ASSENT was given in the House of Lords on Friday, March 29, to the Shops Bill, which was introduced into the House of Lords by Lord Ashby St. Ledgers on February 28 (see *C. & D.*, March 2, index folio 332). The Bill went through all the stages in the House of Lords, and was introduced into the House of Commons on Tuesday of last week and went through all the stages in a single sitting, the members being satisfied with the explanations of a "white paper." It is a splendid example of how quickly and almost surreptitiously legislation can be got in this country. In this case we have to thank the coal strike for suppressing publicity to the Parliamentary procedure. The Lord Chancellor stated in the House of Lords on the second reading of the Bill that it merely consolidates the existing law and makes no alteration whatever; but this is scarcely correct, as will be seen from our critical comparison of the new Act with the provisions of those which it consolidates. The purpose of the Act is to enable the Home Office and the Irish and Scotch Departments to make the regulations necessary before any local orders can be framed under the Shops Act, 1911, it having been found impossible for the officials to draft the regulations until the chaotic condition of the half-dozen statutes was made orderly. The Consolidation Act consists of twenty-two sections and five schedules, the Acts which it embraces being

The Shop Hours Act, 1892, which amended the law relating to the employment of young persons in shops.

The Shop Hours Act, 1893, which amended that measure administratively.

The Shop Hours Act, 1895, which imposed a penalty upon employers failing to exhibit the notice required by Section 4 of the 1892 Act.

The Seats for Shop Assistants Act, 1899.

The Shop Hours Act, 1904, which provided for the early closing of shops.

The Shops Act, 1911.

The sections are arranged in five groups, the first of which relates to the conditions of employment—viz.:

Section 1 provides for the hours of employment and meal-times, and is printed elsewhere in this issue.

Section 2 relates to the hours of employment of young persons, and is also printed in full.

Section 3 consists of the provision of seats for female shop-assistants.

The second group of five sections deals with the closing of shops. Section 4, dealing with closing of shops on weekly half-holidays, is made up of Sections 2, 8 (2) and (3), 11, and 12 of the 1911 Act. The first five sub-sections are word for word the first sub-sections of Section 2; then comes a change in Sub-section 6, which will be seen on reading the subjoined comparison:

| | |
|---|--|
| 1911 Act. The italicised parts are changed in the new Act. | CONSOLIDATION ACT. The italicised portions are new. |
|---|--|

This section shall not apply to any shop in which a trade or business of any class mentioned in the Second Schedule to this Act is carried on, but the local authority may, by order made and revocable in like manner as closing orders, extend the provisions of this section to shops of any class exempted under this provision if satisfied that the occupiers of at least two-thirds of the shops of that class approve the order.

This section shall not apply to any shop in which the *only* trade or business carried on is *trade or business of any of the classes mentioned in the Second Schedule to this Act*, but the local authority may, by order made and revocable in the manner hereinafter provided with respect to closing orders, extend the provisions of this section to shops of any class exempted under this provision if satisfied that the occupiers of at least two-thirds of the shops of that class approve the order.

The old wording enabled any shopkeeper dealing in any exempted article—*e.g.*, medicines and medical and surgical appliances—to keep his shop open on the half-holiday of his district; but in the new sub-section the words “the only” have been introduced so as to change the incidence of the provision. Later, however (see Section 10), an exemption from the 1904 Act is introduced, which counteracts the closing which the change in wording apparently makes obligatory upon chemists who are unable to say that they carry on business only in medicines and medical and surgical appliances. It is under this sub-section that chemists have been applying for closing orders, and the change will not annul these. We print the section verbatim in this issue, index folio 507.

Section 5 embraces the closing-orders provisions of the 1904 Act with exemptions (see Schedule 3). The same Act's procedure for making orders is the subject of Section 6, while Section 7 deals with local inquiries for the purpose of promoting and facilitating early closing, being Section 3 of the 1911 Act. The group concludes with Section 8, being Section 4 of the 1904 Act, dealing with the revocation of closing orders.

The third group of sections embraces provisions with respect to special classes of trade or business, consisting of:

Section 9 (provisions as to trading elsewhere than in shops) consists of Section 4 of the 1911 Act and Section 2 (2) of the 1904 Act; the phraseology differs, but the meaning is the same. The following is new:

The prohibition imposed by this section shall, as respects any day other than the weekly half-holiday, be subject to such exemptions and conditions (if any) as may be contained in closing orders.

In Section 10 we have provisions as respects shops where more than one business is carried on, this consisting of Section 5 of the 1911 Act and Section 2 (5) of the 1904 Act. Sub-section 2 is as follows:

Where several trades and businesses are carried on in the same shop, and any of those trades or businesses are of such a nature that if they were the only trades or businesses carried on in the shop the closing order would not apply to the shop, the shop may be kept open after the closing hour for the purposes of those trades and businesses alone, but on such terms and under such conditions as may be specified in the order.

Section 11 contains the special provisions of the 1911 Act, Section 6, as to holiday resorts, whereby the local authority may suspend (1) the weekly half-holiday, and (2) the assistants' half-holiday if they get two weeks' holiday on full pay, in each case for not more than four months.

Section 12 relates to the application of the provisions to Post-office business, and consists of Section 10 of the

1911 Act and Section 2 (5) of the 1904 Act, the wording again being altered.

The fourth group of sections consists of Sections 13 and 14, providing for the enforcement of the Act, the powers and duties of local authorities embraced in Section 7 of the 1911 Act being Section 13, while the provisions in respect to offences contained in Sections 6 and 7 of the 1892 Act and Section 8 of the 1911 Act are consolidated in Section 14.

The fifth group consists of general provisions, embodied in

Section 15, the expenses of the Secretary of State—Section 3 (5) of the 1911 Act.

Section 16, local inquiries, being Section 6 of the 1904 Act.

Section 17, the making of regulations—Section 7 of the 1904 Act.

Section 18, proof and revocation of orders as provided in Section 9 of the 1911 Act.

Section 19, interpretation, being Section 14 of the 1911 Act and Section 9 of the 1892 Act—so says the rubric, but as a matter of fact the section differs from Section 14 in the omission of the following:

The expression “prescribed” means prescribed by regulations made under the Shop Hours Act, 1904.

The expression “closing order” means a closing order under the Shop Hours Act, 1904.

The section also contains the following:

The expression “week” means the period between midnight on Saturday night and midnight on the succeeding Saturday night.

Nothing in this Act shall apply to any fair lawfully held or any bazaar or sale of work for charitable or other purposes from which no private profit is derived.

Sub-section (2) is the provision contained in Section 2 (4) of the 1904 Act.

Section 20 deals with the application of the Act to Scotland, being Section 15 of the 1911 Act.

Section 21 provides for the application of the statute to Ireland, and embraces Section 16 (still printed as Section 168) of the 1911 Act, Sub-sections (3) and (5), with Section 2 of the 1893 Act and Section 8 of the 1904 Act.

Section 22 gives the title—namely, “The Shops Act, 1912”—states that it will come into operation on May 1, 1912, and it repeats the Shops Regulation Acts, 1892 to 1911, except that

Any closing order made under the Shop Hours Act, 1904, which is in force at the commencement of this Act, shall continue in force until revoked in accordance with the provisions of this Act, except in so far as it fixes a closing hour earlier than seven o'clock for any shop to which the provisions of this Act with respect to the weekly half-holiday apply.

The schedules appended embrace the following:

First Schedule. Interval for meals as provided in the Shops Act, 1911.

Second Schedule. Trades and businesses exempted from the provisions as to weekly half-holiday. This we reprint:

The sale by retail of intoxicating liquors.

The sale of refreshments, including the business carried on at a railway refreshment room.

The sale of motor, cycle, and air-craft supplies and accessories to travellers.

The sale of newspapers and periodicals.

The sale of meat, fish, milk, cream, bread, confectionery, fruit, vegetables, flowers, and other articles of a perishable nature.

The sale of tobacco and smokers' requisites.

The business carried on at a railway bookstall on or adjoining a railway platform.

The sale of medicines and medical and surgical appliances.

Retail trade carried on at an exhibition or show, if the local authority certify that such retail trade is subsidiary or ancillary only to the main purpose of the exhibition or show.

Third Schedule. Trades and businesses exempted from provisions of closing orders—viz.:

The sale by retail of intoxicating liquors.

The sale of refreshments for consumption on the premises.

The business carried on at a railway refreshment-room.

The sale of newspapers.

The sale of tobacco and smokers' requisites.

The business carried on at a railway bookstall.

The sale of medicines and medical and surgical appliances.

Post-office business.

Fourth Schedule. Provisions applicable to rural districts in Ireland and towns within such districts.

Fifth Schedule. Provisions with respect to Ireland.

The provisions of Section 5 are referable to the Third Schedule. The section provides that local authorities may make an order for closing not earlier than seven o'clock. The exemption of Section 2 (4) of the 1904 Act is introduced with modifications, thus:

1904. SECTION 2 (4).

Nothing in a closing order shall apply to any . . . shop where the only trade or business carried on is one or more of the trades or businesses mentioned in the Schedule to this Act.

1912. SECTION 5 (4).

Nothing in a closing order shall apply to any shop in which the only trade or business carried on is trade or business of any of the classes mentioned in the Third Schedule of this Act.

What the alteration implies remains to be determined; but as chemists' businesses are mixtures of the exempted and non-exempted, it should be possible to obtain early-closing orders for them, subject to the general exemption that medicines and surgical appliances can be sold lawfully at any time, those who serve customers when the shop is required to be closed being exonerated from the penalty if it is proved that there was reasonable ground for believing that the article supplied was required in the case of illness.

The foregoing are the points in the Act which appear to us to be of direct interest to our readers, among whom are many who have studied carefully the provisions of the 1911 Act. When they come to give the same attention to the 1912 one they may be alarmed at the great changes which have been made, but on the whole the law does not appear to be materially altered. As matters stand, on and after May 1 chemists must give their assistants a half-holiday once a week, and, whether an order is made or not in respect to their shops, they must close them once a week at 1 P.M., except for the purpose of serving customers with medicines and medical and surgical appliances. Further, they may, if two-thirds of those carrying on mixed businesses agree, apply for a closing order under Sections 5 and 6.

Secret-medicine Inquiry.

II.

IN Germany the sale of medicines is restricted to licensed pharmacists (*Apothekers*), but a great proportion of the retail drug-trade, as understood in English-speaking countries, is done by druggists, and included in the proportion are toilet specialties and other pharmaceutical products which are not "cures" (*Heilmittel*) for human ailments. The conditions appear to resemble those of Ireland, where pharmacists alone may compound prescriptions, and druggists may not, but there druggists may sell medicines, secret or otherwise, whereas German druggists may not. It is desirable, when considering the German conditions for the sale of secret remedies, to keep in mind the fundamental principle upon which the practice of pharmacy is established, that the pharmacist is personally responsible for every article which he sells, and cannot shift his responsibility to the actual manufacturer. This necessarily influences the pharmacist's attitude to proprietary medicines. Another matter which bears directly upon the sale of such medicines is the statutory provision of a list of potent drugs, none of which, even in the smallest amount, may be sold except upon a doctor's prescription. This list includes acetanilide, antipyrin, atropine, chloroform, cocaine, morphine, sodium salicylate, opium, phenacetin, strychnine, and many other common remedies which are constituents of popular medicines. This acts as a double

bar to satisfying the public demand for these, and it is in startling contrast with the fact that medical quackery (*i.e.*, practice of medicine by unqualified persons in all respects like general practitioners) is more rampant in Germany than in any other country in Europe.

From the foregoing it will be seen that the secret remedies sold without great restriction by pharmacists in Germany are confined to preparations free from toxic or potent drugs, and of these the annual sales amount to a value of about thirty million marks (1,500,000*l.*). In 1903 a statutory attempt was made to regulate the sale of secret remedies uniformly throughout the German Empire. The Act of that year contains a list of ninety-five remedies which may not be advertised to the public, nor may testimonials or any statements relating to the effects or to alleged cures be distributed with the articles. In the case of five of these remedies the production of a doctor's prescription is required before the pharmacist may sell them. It is not uncommonly supposed that proprietary-medicine advertisements are prohibited in Germany, but it is not so as the annexed reproduction from the "Kölnische Zeitung" of a week ago sufficiently indicates. It is substantially the same as is used in this country.

In addition to Imperial regulations, individual German States require that the formula of each

secret remedy shall be on the label, and when the advertising of a speciality is permitted the formula must also, in some instances, be given in the advertisement. In Germany it is acknowledged that this requirement is of no use; indeed, that it has been found in many cases to exert an added fascination. Moreover, the sanitary authorities of several German towns publish from time to time "warnings" in the daily papers against the use of secret remedies which happen to be in the public eye. These "warnings" usually state what the remedy is composed of, that it does not possess the properties attributed to it, and that the sale price of the preparation is out of proportion to the value of the ingredients. There is an enormous consumption of old-fashioned patent medicines resembling the well-known Dutch medicines so greatly in use in South Africa. Little bottles containing various "balsams," of peculiar shapes and with quaint labels, selling at about 3*d.* to 6*d.*, are extremely popular in certain parts; they are mostly sold by pedlars or private individuals (factory workers, midwives, etc.) who have a *depôt* of these highly valued nostrums, which are mostly manufactured in Austria or in Switzerland. The Customs duty levied on goods of this description is 25*l.* per 100 kilos. (= 2*s.* 3½*d.* per lb.), and is levied on the gross weight, so that in many instances the duty is borne practically by the container, etc., and this explains the high price charged for many well-known British specialties put up in heavy bottles. The Customs officials treat as "secret remedies" preparations which come within the scope of either of the following descriptions:

(1) If the sale price is higher than the amount obtained by calculating the charges for the ingredients according to the provisions of the prescription tariff.



(2) If any claims are made in the advertising material included regarding its alleged curative properties.

The anti-quackery Bill introduced by the German Government last year, and withdrawn while under discussion in the Reichstag Commission, proposed to establish a Central Board which was to have the power to grant or withhold permission to place any remedy on the market. Transgressions, such as selling or advertising a prohibited article, were to be punished by imprisonment up to six months, or a fine not exceeding 75/., or both; and not only the manufacturer, but also the publisher was to be held responsible for the insertion of any advertisement contravening this law.

"Clause" and "Section."

A good deal of confusion prevails in the use of these words for parts of Bills and Acts. The term "section" should not be used in regard to Bills, the parts of which are clauses, and numbered parts of a clause are sub-clauses—e.g., Clause 1, Sub-clause 2. So also section and sub-section are the proper terms to use in respect to the parts of an Act; the word "clause" is occasionally employed—e.g., "Widows Clause" of the Pharmacy Act, 1868, which, however, was really a perpetuation of the colloquialism when the Act was a Bill.

Registration of Apothecaries.

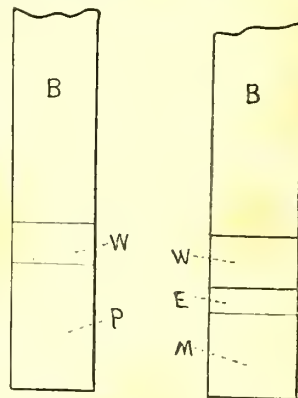
We are informed that the draft of the Bill which is being promoted by the Society of Apothecaries to strengthen the statutory position of persons holding the assistant's certificate in dispensing is still under the consideration of that body, and that it is unlikely to be introduced for some time. It is stated that the Bill will provide that the rights of chemists and druggists shall be in no way affected, and will not authorise persons registered under the Act to keep open shop or sell medicines and other commodities on their own account. The Bill will also, it is understood, provide for the establishment of a register, and at the same time strengthen the requirements of the examination, as well as of the examination itself, and it will be insisted that candidates shall have passed an examination in general knowledge and have gone through a considerable period of training in practical pharmacy. There is no possibility of any progress being made with the Bill during the present Session of Parliament, and the chief object in introducing it is that its provisions may be carefully studied by those concerned.

The Year's Patents.

The twenty-ninth report of the Comptroller-General of Patents, Designs, and Trade-marks for 1911 states that the trend of invention during the year included in chemical industry considerable activity in connection with the synthetic production of indiarubber and of ammonia, the catalytic reduction of unsaturated fats, oils, and the like, and the production of vat dyes of the anthracene series. There were 29,353 applications for patents, and of these 17,164 were sealed, this being the largest number for many years, thus confounding the critics of the Patents Act, 1907, who declared that some of the provisions of that Act would stem the tide of invention, or at least drive inventors to keep their methods secret. The number of designs registered was 41,581, against 32,212 in the previous year, while a falling-off is shown in the number of trade-marks registered—4,868, against 5,722 in 1910 and 6,112 in 1909. The surplus of receipts over expenditure was 114,731/., as compared with 99,069/., in 1910. Of the applicants for patents 1,518 were resident abroad, 755 in the United States of America, 467 in Germany, 43 in France, 28 in Canada, and 27 in India. As required by the Patents Act, 1907, typical specimens were furnished in connection with applications for chemical inventions in twenty-one cases, 212 sample bottles and 396 dyed or printed specimens being filed. The result is given of the examination of specifications for novelty for the years 1905-10, and this shows that all patents applied for are not new.

Molecular Physics.

PROFESSOR SIR JOSEPH THOMSON, in his fifth lecture at the Royal Institution on March 23, commenced by referring to the influence which surface-tension may have on chemical combination. In cases where the result of this combination is a product which increases surface-tension, the result is that the continuation of the combination is checked; on the other hand, if the product formed diminishes the surface-tension, the effect produced is to help the chemical action. One example of this kind is the liberation of chloroform from an alkaline solution of chloral hydrate; the action proceeds until the solution becomes milky (due to the presence of minute globules of chloroform), at which stage there is a diminution of the reaction. A possible explanation of this may be that as the chloroform increases there is an increase of surface-tension which tends to stop the action.



CAPILLARY ANALYSIS.

n, blotting-paper; w, water;
P, permanganate; E, eosin;
M, methyl blue.

The influence of surface-tension may also be seen where reactions take place in capillary tubes; there is a clear space in the meniscus, called the dead space, which is free from the reaction. The interspaces between fine powders presenting large surface may be looked upon as capillary tubes. One property of this surface-action is utilised in filtering out colouring matter. The lecturer showed that a water solution of permanganate of potash was quite colourless after passing through a tube containing powdered silica. Another experiment was shown in which picric acid was removed from solution after percolation through animal charcoal. A very simple way of showing these results is to dip a strip of filter-paper into a solution of permanganate of potash, which colours the paper a certain distance only, above which there is seen a fringe of pure water. In this way it is possible to produce a separation of two substances by capillary analysis. To show this, porous paper was dipped into a solution containing eosin and methyl blue; it was seen that eosin travelled much further along the filter-paper than the methyl blue, thus producing a separation of the two substances. This surface-action is largely used for the purification of water by filtration through beds of sand.

Reverting to colloidal solutions, Sir Joseph said that the fine particles in some cases simulate the action of organic ferments; thus, platinum in fine particles can start chemical reactions and continue the same without itself undergoing any change. This is known as catalytic action. The particles of platinum are capable of decomposing a solution of peroxide of hydrogen, giving a steady evolution of oxygen. A curious analogy between organic and inorganic ferments is that both are capable of being poisoned, as the action ceases in the presence of prussic acid or sulphuretted hydrogen. Dust in supersaturated air acts as a catalytic agent, without which there is great difficulty in the formation of very minute drops in consequence of the enormous surface-tension existing on the drop. After the first drops are formed they can easily increase, because the surface-tension is lessened as the drop grows larger. Similarly fine particles present in a gas act like ready-made drops. The action of surfaces can be utilised, as in charcoal, to absorb gases and vapours. This action is greater the lower the temperature, thus enabling very high vacua to be obtained. A colloidal solution of platinum may be looked upon as exerting a

concentrating influence on the solution around it, which must be very great.

A gelatinised colloidal solution can sometimes be redissolved by an excess of the precipitant. This was demonstrated by precipitating colloidal arsenious sulphide (which is negative) with colloidal ferric hydrate (positive); upon the addition of an excess of the iron colloid the precipitate is redissolved, a kind of digestion taking place. The remarkable formation of a series of concentric rings around a drop of silver solution when placed upon a thin film of gelatin impregnated with a solution of ammonium bichromate was projected upon the screen. In this case the precipitation of silver takes place in definite zones with clear spaces between, showing that the action takes place in definite stages with an intervening pause for diffusion, suggesting that one of the products of combustion is a stabiliser which temporarily stops combination.

Emulsions form another type of solution in which the suspended particles are in the liquid state, like the emulsion of paraffin used by gardeners. Jellies are formed when a colloidal substance like gelatin in solution is cooled down. This results in a spongy framework of the molecules imprisoning the liquid. Jellies are familiar instances of this condition of colloids; soap is another example: someone has described soap-making as the art of making water stand on end. A very remarkable jelly is produced upon adding a solution of celloidin in ether and alcohol (equal parts) to chloroform; the result is a jelly containing chloroform, which can be squeezed out between the fingers, leaving the spongy framework of celloidin quite dry and brittle.

In his concluding lecture on March 30, Professor Sir Joseph Thomson again referred to the work of Hardy, especially in regard to the membranes which are produced around a crystal of copper sulphate placed in a solution of potassium ferrocyanide. Leduc has shown that osmotic growths of great beauty and variety can be produced by placing small pieces of fused calcium chloride in a solution of sodium silicate. Here again a semi-permeable membranous structure is formed, which allows water to pass inwards. The lecturer showed a supersaturated solution of sodium hyposulphite which crystallised with great rapidity on the introduction of a small crystal of the same substance, this demonstrating the need of a nidus. One very beautiful experiment was made by fusing a little nitrophenol between two slips of glass; this was placed between crossed Nicols and projected upon the screen. As the substance cooled the crystals appeared in gorgeous colours, having a dark background due to the polarised light. The same substance was shown in process of crystallisation from a supersaturated aqueous solution. In both instances crystallisation appeared to commence at spots where there were nuclei, and having commenced, the growth could be seen to extend steadily to certain spots, at which the process then proceeded with something like explosive rapidity. These instances are somewhat analogous to the condensation of supersaturated aqueous vapour by suitable nuclei, which was demonstrated in one of the earlier lectures. Sir Joseph thinks that the importance of nuclei in starting chemical reactions and producing precipitates should be more closely studied by chemists. It is important to note

perature far below red-heat if it has previously been subjected to cathode-rays; the explanation is that a quasi-chemical combination is produced by the action of the rays, and that the compound so formed is unstable at ordinary temperatures. With gradual recombination (not sufficiently intense to be visible) a slight increase of temperature enables the recombination to take place with sufficient rapidity to produce visible light, which phenomenon is known as thermo-luminescence.

The Friday evening's discourse at the Institution on March 29 was on the same subject, the lecture being entitled "Results of the Application of Positive Rays to the Study of Chemical Problems." Sir J. J. Thomson began by referring to the employment of positive rays for analysing a mixture of gases. The process, he explained, is based upon the fact that the gas is charged with positive electricity, so as to make it amenable to electricity and magnetism, so that the various constituents are sorted out. The method, which involves photographing the rays, has been explained in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST*, curves being produced on the sensitive film, each gas having a special curve. Calculations establish the identity of the gas from the atomic weight. It was mentioned that the hole in the cathode through which the gases are forced is produced by making a scratch upon the surface of two pieces of silver or copper worked plane. Some curious results have been established by this method of analysis—for instance, with hydrogen a body believed to be H_2 has been indicated, but it only occurs when the hydrogen contains a trace of air or oxygen. Nitrogen occurs in five conditions, and in the case of benzene twenty-two lines were shown, thus exhibiting almost every combination of carbon and hydrogen. With a mixture of nitrogen and hydrogen an ammonia line is indicated. The investigator has to be upon his guard against various spurious effects, of which several were shown on the screen. Among the exhibits in the library were Mr. Glew's radium coil and Rheinberg's method of colour-photography by prismatic dispersion.

A New Pill-excipient.

A PAPER on "Pill-excipients" was read before the Chemists' Assistants' Association at 73 Newman Street, London, W., on March 28, by Mr. P. B. Phillips. The principal interest lay in a formula for a new excipient of the universal type which produces a very soluble mass. Each dispenser, he said, usually has his favourite pill-excipient. The recommendations of half-a-dozen skilled pharmacists for the best excipient with which to mass powdered rhubarb were: (1) Simple syrup, (2) glycerin and tincture of rhubarb in equal parts, (3) glycerin, (4) treacle, (5) equal parts of glycerin and rectified spirit, (6) dispensing syrup (equal parts of syrup, glycerin, mucilage, and spirit). The characters of many of the usual pill-excipients were then reviewed. The table below shows the results of the author's experiments in regard to the solubility of pills massed with various excipients, the figures representing the number of hours which the different pills took to disintegrate:

| Excipients | PILL INGREDIENTS | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|------------|---------------------|-------------|------------------|----------------|---------|---------------|--------------|-------------------|
| | Ext. Cascar. | Ext. Aloes | Ferri Sulph. Exsic. | Ext. Ergot. | Ferri Quin. Cit. | Hyd. Subchlor. | Quinina | Butyl Chloral | Ext. Hyoscy. | Hydrarg. c. Creta |
| Syrup | 1½ | 1½ | 1½ | 2½ | 3½ | 2½ | 4 | 2½ | 1½ | 1½ |
| Syrup <i>plus</i> acac. ... | 4 | 2½ | 1½ | 3½ | 1½ | 3½ | 5½ | 3½ | 4 | 1½ |
| Syrup <i>plus</i> trag. ... | 4½ | 2 | 4 | 7 | 4½ | 21 | 8½ | 12 | 11 | 3½ |
| "Massol" | 1½ | 1½ | 1 | 1½ | ½ | 1½ | 3½ | 1½ | 1½ | 1 |

that when a colloidal substance is precipitated it occludes and drags down some of the precipitant with it, which is difficult to wash out. A solid solution of manganese sulphate in calcium sulphate (less than 1 per cent.) is capable of glowing with a beautiful green light at a tem-

The evidence goes to show that acacia and particularly tragacanth are undesirable additions to pills in many cases, and that their use ought to be avoided wherever possible.

The conclusion had been reached after much experimen-

tation that the universal pill-excipient is next to impossible, but in an excipient invented by the author, and referred to by him as "massol," a near approach to universality was attained, as it could be used in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred. The formula is as follows:

| | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Gelatini | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3ij. |
| Glycerini | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5ij. |
| Pulv. sacchari | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5ij. |
| Aq. dest. ad | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5j. |

Place the gelatin in a tared evaporating-dish with about 4 oz. of distilled water, and allow to stand for some minutes. Next add the glycerin, and heat the mixture until the gelatin is dissolved. Then add the sugar in powder, and continue the heating until the product weighs 480 grains.

Transfer the contents to a covered pot, and stir until cool. As the liquid begins to set to a solid, stir briskly with a spatula in such a way as to work a certain amount of air into the product. This serves the double purpose of making the preparation whiter and softer. "Massol" keeps quite well, and needs no preservative.

The new excipient masses pulv. pro pil. rhei co. with ease, and as a test of plasticity 60 grains of the mass was rolled into a pipe of 40 feet in length. Its use with cascara extract obviates any difficulty arising from falling or spurring of the pills. With quinine and iron citrate the mass remains soft for some minutes. Lithium guaiaecate forms an unmanageable hard mass with most excipients, but not with the new one. The British Pharmacopœia gives twenty formulas for pills, which include a variety of excipients. "Massol" was used with satisfactory results in all of these. In the case of pil. hydrarg. it was suggested that a pulv. pro pil. hydrarg. be made with mercury (1 part) and milk-sugar (4 parts). In the case of pil. ferri the number of weightings would be reduced from seven to two. To make pil. phosphori, 10 grains each of the excipient and milk-sugar are mixed thoroughly and 1 grain of phosphorus dissolved in a few minims of carbon bisulphide, added with gentle stirring. The weight is then made up to 50 grains with sugar of milk and the mass completed in the usual way. No fuming is apparent, and the plastic mass is quite white. For pills containing volatile oils "massol" is a very suitable excipient, 1½ grain being added, with about ¾ grain of powdered liquorice to each minim of volatile oil. Sufficient liquorice is then added to make it firm. With creosote the quantities of excipient can be reduced to 1 grain to each minim. Forty formulas of pills prescribed by physicians and massed with the new excipient were given to illustrate the diverse ingredients which it readily massed. An exceptional pill for which it could not be used consisted of acetyl-salicylic acid gr. 2 and zinci, phosphid. gr. ½. The acetyl-salicylic acid, being very acid, decomposes the zinc phosphide in the presence of moisture, liberating phosphoretted hydrogen. Massed with any moist excipient these pills would swell to about double their original size and would become very poisonous. A nice pill was made with anhydrous lanoline. "Massol" is also attacked by potassium permanganate. "Massol" should be used with slight modification of the method with dried iron sulphate and zinc valerianate. For the former chemical, equal proportions of syrup and "massol" give the best results, and with the latter a little spirit should be used.

Notes and Queries.

By William Duncan, Ph.C., F.C.S.

THE subjoined is an abstract of a communication to the Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association at a meeting held on March 27. Three queries of secondary interest are not dealt with here.

Apomorph. hydroch., gr. ij.
Codeinæ, gr. iv.
Syrup. simp., ʒi.
Aq. ad ʒiv.—M

A white precipitate falls, and in a short time the mixture turns green.

The precipitate is apomorphine set free by codeine. Prevent it by using sufficient hydrochloric acid to make the mixture faintly acid.

Supp. bellad. B.P.
Supp. plumbi c. op. B.P.
Ft. supp. m. t. xij.

What size of suppository should be made?

A 30-grain suppository is ordered here.

What is potass. sulph. c. sulph. used in Harrogate salts?

It was official in the Edinburgh Pharmacopœia, 1841,

and was made by mixing equal parts of potassium nitrate and sulphur and fusing in a crucible, a complex and variable mixture resulting (chiefly sulphate and sulphides of potassium), which potassa sulphurata resembles.

Ung. hydrarg. nit., ʒss.

Lin. terebinth. ad ʒij.—M.

This liniment gets black. Why?

From the formation of mercurous oxide by action of the alkaline liniment on mercurous salt in the ointment.

What are sem. oculi and sem. silij?

Sem. oculi, the seeds of *Salvia Verbenaca*, wild sage or clary, used to remove sand or the like from the eye. A seed is slipped under the lid, and, becoming mucilaginous, facilitates the removal of anything. Sem. silij is a corruption of semen psyllium, flea-seed, the seed of *Plantago Psyllium*. Mr. A. K. Stewart imports the drug from Spain, and in a note to the author states that they are largely used in Spain for making bandoline for the hair. The seeds are now used with great benefit in cases of constipation and irritation of the mucous lining of the stomach and intestines. They are generally prescribed in doses of a dessert to a table spoonful stirred in half a tumbler of warm water, and the draught taken before the mucilage has formed. The seed comes into the London market in tons, being largely used in the arts for stiffening lace, and also for fixing certain colours by paper-stainers. In Scotland the drug is given to sheep for dysentery and diarrhoea.

Liq. strychninæ, m℥xxx.

Infus. quassia ad ʒviii.—M.
Why does this mixture develop a disgusting smell in the course of four days?

From putrefaction. All fresh infusions do the same. If the cold-water infusion be boiled for a few minutes to coagulate albumen and sterilise, it will be found its keeping properties are much improved.

Heroin. hydroch., gr. j.

Vin. ipecac. ʒij.

Potass. citrat., ʒij.

Glycerini, ʒi.

Inf. rose acid, ad ʒvj.—M.

This mixture turns bluish-black. Why?

Owing to the potassium of the salt withdrawing the sulphuric acid from union with the colouring-matter of the rose.

Sodii salicylat., ʒij.

Sodii bromid., ʒiv.

Tinct. guaranæ, ʒvj.

Aq. ad ʒvj.—M.

Hard cakes are formed in this on keeping. What is the cause?

Resinous and colouring matter precipitated by the water and salts. A few

grains of tragacanth prevent aggregation of the precipitate, and a trace of alkali prevents it forming.

Ichthylol.

Hammamelin aa. gr. iij.

Ft. supp., m. t. xij.

Give trouble both with oil and glyco-gelatin bases.

The trouble is chiefly due to loss of ammonia from the ichthylol followed by separation of ichthylol-sulphonio acid, a resinous rubber-like body, which, remaining suspended, imparts a "leatheryness" to the gelatin base and hardness to the oil. Thinning the ichthylol with a little glycerin or wool-fat, or adding of ammonium or sodium carbonate is suggested. With oil basis cold compression has also been recommended.

Sodii nitritus, gr. viij.

Sodii bromid.,

Sodii iodid. aa. ʒss.

Tinct. belladon., ʒss.

Tinct. lobelia ether.,

Nepenthe aa. ʒij.

Spt. chloroform., ʒij.

Aq. camph. ad ʒvj.—M.

Sodii nitritus, gr. viij.

Potass. iodid., ʒiv.

Elixir. lactopept. ad ʒij.—M.

Please explain the incompatibility of these two mixtures.

In the first, sulphuric acid in the nepenthe sets free nitrous acid from the sodium nitrite, which attacks the iodide, liberating the iodine. Then the iodine and alkalis form insoluble bodies. In the second, hydrochloric acid in the elixir reacts with nitrite, and iodine is liberated.

Can a good pill be made from the following:

Pepsin., gr. j.

Acid. carbol., gr. ʒ.

Ext. nucis. vom., gr. ʒ.

Alolin., gr. ss.

Pil. galbani co., gr. j.

Ft. pil., m. t. xxiv.

A capital pill can be obtained by using the equivalent of the gum-resins for pil. galbani co., adding the other ingredients, massing rigorously, and adding sufficient powdered liquorice to give the necessary plasticity.

Phenazon., gr. x.

Hydrarg. bichlor., gr. ʒ.

Liq. arseniei hydroch., miv.

Potass. iodid., gr. v.

Tinct. cinchon., ʒss.

Aq. ad ʒij.—M.

This is quite incompatible.

Hexameth. tetramine, ʒiv.

Tinct. nucis vom., ʒij.

Aq. ad ʒvj.—M.

Why does this darken?

It is difficult to say. Hexamethylene tetramine has an alkaline reaction, and may darken the colour of nuxvomica as alkalies do.

Quin. bromid., gr. v.

Sodii bromid., gr. xx.

Tinct. aurant., m℥xx.

Aq. ad ʒss.—M.

Why does this become thick?

Salting out of the quinine salt by the sodium bromide.

CHEMICAL SOCIETY.

THE annual meeting of the Fellows was held at Burlington House, London, W., on Thursday, March 28, at 4.30 P.M., with Professor P. F. Frankland, F.R.S. (President), in the chair. There was an excellent attendance. Dr. George Senter and Professor Green were appointed scrutators for the election of officers and members of Council, whereupon the ballot was declared open.

THE ANNUAL REPORT

was taken as read, it having been circulated to the Fellows. This showed that the membership at the end of 1911 was 3,104, compared with 3,073 in the previous year. It was stated that the question of the misuse of the letters "F.C.S." has again been considered by the Council, and opinion of counsel has now been received that a person using the letters "F.C.S." without authority and for the purpose of assuming wrongfully the status of a Fellow of the Chemical Society can be restrained by injunction from so doing. It was also mentioned that Mr. Edward Riley, 14A Finsbury Square, E.C., completed his sixtieth year of fellowship on December 15, 1911, and that the following have attained their jubilee as Fellows: Major C. E. Beadnell, R.A., Mr. H. O. Huskisson, Ph.C., Moon Street, Islington, N., and Mr. Frederick Norrington, Clifton, Bristol. In spite of the smaller number of new Fellows elected, and the consequent diminution in receipts from admission-fees, the income exceeded the expenditure by 235*l.* 17*s.* 8*d.* The income from all sources for 1911 amounted to 7,735*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.*, and the total expenditure to 7,499*l.* 13*s.* 10*d.*, the corresponding amounts for 1910 being 7,447*l.* 5*s.* 10*d.* and 7,594*l.* 12*s.* 2*d.* respectively. In a subsequent explanation by Dr. Alexander Scott, F.R.S. (Treasurer), it was stated that two postal-orders of 1*l.* each had been received from someone who had not given his name, and if this catches the eye of that absent-minded Fellow he will understand why he received none of the Society's journals during 1910. Dr. Scott concluded his statement by expressing the thanks of the Society to the auditors, Dr. Frederick B. Power, Professor John M. Thomson, and Dr. Samuel Rideal. The report was adopted, on the motion of Dr. E. J. Mills, seconded by Dr. A. Harden, after Mr. John Hughes had expressed his dissatisfaction with the research fund, so far as the absence of reports by the workers is concerned. Mr. Hughes suggested that the Council should consider the desirability of instituting prizes for reports on researches by young chemists. These observations were received with a certain measure of favour, but the President, in putting the motion to the meeting, ignored them, and there was no subsequent reference until the vote of thanks to the Treasurer, Secretary, and Council was moved by Professor Herbert McLeod, F.R.S., and seconded by Mr. Spencer Pickering, F.R.S., when the latter spoke of the care exercised by the Research Committee in allotting money to selected workers, adding that these men do not work for advertisement, but for the advancement of science; whereupon there was hearty applause. The vote of thanks was acknowledged by Professor Norman Collie, F.R.S.

THE LONGSTAFF MEDAL

was then presented by the President to Dr. H. Brereton Baker, M.A., F.R.S. Up to this point the meeting had been confined to Fellows. A few visitors now came in. Professor Frankland, in a few sentences, spoke of Dr. Baker's work on dried gases, especially his proof that if oxygen and hydrogen are thoroughly dried they do not unite at the temperature of molten silver. The results of these researches are so well established that they are included in the most elementary text-books of chemistry, but their explanations, added the President, baffle all those except theorists who delight in speculation. Reference was also made to Dr. Baker's researches on tellurium, which Professor Frankland facetiously described as an eccentric element, but he had not impugned its atomic weight. The President concluded his remarks by congratulating Dr. Baker upon his appointment to succeed Sir Edward Thorpe as Professor of Chemistry at the Imperial College of Technology.

Dr. Baker, who had been sitting on a back bench on the east side of the room, stepped on to the platform amid hearty applause, and received from the President a case containing the medal, and a cheque. Speaking under the stress of great emotion, Dr. Baker said that this was the greatest distinction that had been conferred upon him, and he recalled the fact that Dr. Kipping, the Longstaff medallist of 1909, began his study of chemistry on the very same day as himself and under the same teacher, Mr. Francis Jones, of the Manchester Grammar School.



DR. BAKER.

THE PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS was then delivered, Professor Frankland taking as his subject "Some Stereochemical Problems," of which we subjoin an abstract. The discourse occupied fully an hour and a half, and was somewhat relieved (to those who remained to the end) by the amusing aspect given by the guilty looks on the faces of the doctors of science and F.R.S.s who seized convenient opportunities to slip out, so that the original audience was reduced to half.

The President said that the chemical world is passing through a period of centenary celebrations. That of the discovery of optical activity by Beer in certain organic compounds in the liquid or dissolved state is due in 1915. The pioneer discoveries and hypotheses of Pasteur, Le Bel, and Van 't Hoff had enabled physicists to get to close quarters with the chemical atom. Twenty years ago the number of British workers in stereochemistry could be counted on the fingers of a hand; now they would have some difficulty in even enumerating them.

Investigation has proceeded in several directions, and several new types of asymmetry had been discovered, including compounds other than of carbon. Optically active compounds had been made containing nitrogen, tin, sulphur, selenium, phosphorus, and silicon as the active elements; while Werner had recently achieved asymmetry with chromium and cobalt compounds.

Van 't Hoff's hypothesis of 1877 in regard to enantiomorphism has foreseen optical activity in the allylene type of molecule, which has been realised in the work of Perkin, Pope, and Ballard. Everest and Marsh, however, contend that this type of compound contains one or more asymmetric carbon atoms.

Much work has been done on the effect of unsaturated groups on the degree of rotation. The ethylenic union is supposed to send up the rotatory power, as also does the acetylenic linking, but the latter less than the ethylenic union. The relationship is not so simple as supposed. In the ethylenic linking the position of the bond affects the rotation, the α β grouping having the highest. The double bond in conjugated positions possesses the greatest effect. It is remarkable that the mode of combination of the asymmetric carbon atom with the rest of the molecule influences rotation more than the influence of the group itself.

The relationship of rotation and constitution in substituted benzene rings was next gone into, the *ortho* product having a rotation usually less than the unsubstituted compound, and the *meta* and *para* compounds a greater optical power. This is apparently based on the change in centre of gravity produced by the attached group of the substituted ring. The behaviour in the furfuran ring is similar. In unsaturated rings the rotation is enormously greater than in saturated rings. The Walden inversion has baffled investigators. The President showed by a long series of diagrams that there is in general a predisposition to *trans* elimination which is favoured by fumaroid grouping, although *cis* elimination can occur. He suggested that the addition to acetylenic or ethylenic unions takes place preferably, or sometimes exclusively, by two monovalent groups attached in the *trans* position. Steric hindrance favours grouping on opposite sides as the most natural formation. In elimination the *trans* form is easier, and reference to structural formula shows why it is preferable. The uniform occurrence of *trans* elimination and *trans* addition suggests a common cause as the base of both. This predisposition may be due to the tendency towards the production of symmetry.

Professor Meldola, F.R.S., moved a resolution thanking the President for his address, and asking that it be printed in the Society's "Transactions," which Dr. Dobbie, F.R.S., seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

WINTER SESSION.

Association Presidents.

MR. S. JAMIESON, President of the St. Vincent Association, whose remarkably successful concert on March 29 is reported



MR. S. JAMIESON.

elsewhere in this issue, is a St. Andrews man, and served his apprenticeship with Messrs. Smith & Govan, chemists there, after which he went to Edinburgh as an assistant to Messrs. H. C. Baildon & Son. The firm had then quite recently opened a West-end branch, and Mr. Jamieson was the night assistant in charge. While there he passed the Minor examination in July 1882, and a few years later purchased a pharmacy in Cupar Fife, which he carried on until his love for music attracted him to the schools and masters in London about

twenty years ago. He thus became a professional singer, and his fine baritone voice was soon heard in the concert-rooms of England; but he never quite lost grip of pharmacy, and has held two or three appointments with manufacturers, having been for many years one of Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co.'s town representatives. In 1910 he joined the staff of Syrolit, Ltd., and about a year ago became the general manager of that company, which makes an ivory and celluloid substitute from milk. Mr. Jamieson is a founder of the St. Vincent Association, and one of the most popular men in the drug-trade. Since his connection with Syrolit he has travelled a great deal on the Continent; in fact, he left last Friday's concert to go to Germany, and he expects to cross the Atlantic soon. He is well known in Masonic circles.

Brief Records.

National Union of Assistant Pharmacists.—A meeting was held in the Temperance Hall, Sheffield, on March 26, under the auspices of this Union, when Mr. J. Wilson (Birmingham), the President, gave a forceful address on the Shops Act and the Insurance Act, the Pharmaceutical Societies' Assistants' Bill, jury-service, etc. It was decided to ask for a Sheffield pharmacist to come forward and act as Hon. Secretary.

Nottingham Pharmaceutical Association.—At the meeting held at the Victoria Station Hotel on March 27 there was only a moderate attendance of members, including Messrs. A. Middleton, C. F. Carr, C. E. Reynolds, E. E. Dickenson, A. Eberlin, W. Gill, and T. Freeman. Various subjects came under discussion, ranging from booking-fees to potassium-iodide plaster, and from coal-strike slackness to oak-paint.

Barnsley Chemists' Association.—A meeting was held on March 28 at the Royal Hotel. Owing to the disorganised railway service, due to the coal strike, many country members were unable to be present. A paper on the Shops Act was read by Mr. A. Wright, and, after some discussion, Mr. Wright was accorded a vote of thanks. It was decided to send 3l. 3s. to the Executive of the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee on Insurance.

A Council-meeting of the Incorporated Society of Pharmacy and Drug-store Proprietors was held at the Albion Hotel, Leeds, on March 26. Mr. W. Huntrods (President) in the chair. Messrs. J. B. Clarkson (Treasurer), Eskriett, Hutton, Kirkman, Childe, Atkinson, and N. D. Vine (Secretary) were also present. The Chairman reported good progress of the Society, and stated that the annual meeting could not be held before May 1. It was decided to appoint Mr. A. Dobson, A.C.A., Park Place, as auditor.

The Manchester Branch of the Incorporated Society of Pharmacy and Drug-store Proprietors, Ltd., met at the Mitre Hotel, Manchester, on March 27. Mr. Lewis (President) in the chair. There was a good attendance, several new members being present. After reading the criticism of "Xrayser II." and others in the C. & D. regarding the diploma, Mr. Lewis explained the various points, and an interesting discussion followed. Various other topics were introduced, and a vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the meeting.

Portsmouth Pharmacists' Association.—A meeting convened by this Association was held at the County Club, Southsea, on March 26, when Mr. W. A. Bell presided over

a large attendance. It was unanimously decided to petition the Borough Council for an order closing the pharmacies of Portsmouth at 1 P.M. on Wednesdays. Twenty-four signatures were then and there placed to the petition, and these have been supplemented by the names of practically every remaining chemist in business in the borough. A director of the Timothy White Co., Ltd., was present at the meeting, and expressed the board's willingness to fall in with the closing.

Dewsbury Pharmacists' Association.—At a meeting in the Church House, Dewsbury, on Monday evening, April 1, Mr. G. N. Gutteridge presiding, the Secretary reported that several questions had been drawn up by a sub-committee on the position of doctors' dispensers under the Insurance Act for Mr. Woolcock to answer; but as Mr. Woolcock was busy, Mr. Brenridge replied, his answer being a reprint of Section 15 of the Insurance Act. The Secretary added that, at the suggestion of Mr. Pickard, he had sent the questions to the Chairman of the Law and Parliamentary Committee of the Pharmaceutical Society, but he had received no reply.

Cambridge and District Pharmaceutical Association.—A meeting was held at the Lion Hotel, Cambridge, on March 29, Mr. E. H. Church (President) in the chair. Among those present were Alderman A. S. Campkin (Mayor of Cambridge), Alderman H. F. Cook, Messrs. J. J. Evans, W. Lincoln (Ely), T. J. Mallett, B. S. Campkin, E. S. Peck, J. Smith, L. J. Parson, M. E. Parson, A. A. Deck, J. M. Palmer, A. H. Course, G. E. Beall, L. F. Barker, R. Deck, Hammond, C. L. Smout, G. L. Wood, F. J. Missen, E. W. Moss, Titterington, Tuck, Williams, and H. Flanders. The object of the meeting was to hear Mr. Woolcock, from Bloomsbury Square, on the Pharmaceutical Society's Federation Scheme and the Insurance Act. A resolution generally approving the scheme was passed. Previous to the meeting Mr. Woolcock was entertained at dinner by a number of members of the Association.

London Chemists' Association.—Mr. J. C. Pentney presided at a committee-meeting held on March 27, when there were present Messrs. F. W. Truman, J. Hearle, J. Brown, Hy. Slaton, and J. W. Douglas (Hon. Secretary). The question of Local Organisation and the National Insurance Act raised by the Pharmaceutical Society was deferred for consideration to a general meeting in April. Mr. Wellesley Douglas reported that he had interviewed Mr. A. Lynch, M.P., in the House of Commons with reference to the *Sale of Stamped Medicines in Small Quantities*, pointing out the injustice, from many points of view, of the concession and the number of prosecutions resulting therefrom. Mr. Lynch agreed to put some questions in the House to the Chancellor on the matter. The National Insurance Act was considered, and recommendations were made to be brought by Mr. Pentney before the National Committee. A vote of thanks to Mr. Truman, at whose house the committee met, concluded the meeting.

Hornsey Pharmacists.—A meeting of pharmacists in business in the borough of Hornsey was held in Crouch End, London, N., on March 28, to consider what action should be taken in the matter of early closing under the Shops Act, 1911. Mr. A. E. Bailey (Divisional Secretary) was in the chair, and there were also present Messrs. Anderson, Curtis, W. B. Dow, Downing, Frost, Grassick, Hornby, Kemp, McRostie, Saunders, Savage, Watkins, and Messrs. Parke's manager, Crouch End. Letters were read from Messrs. Alford (Boots, Ltd.), Briggs, Cooper, Dickinson, Pinchen, and Thorpe, agreeing to stand by the decision of the majority. The discussion was helped by reprints of the sections of the Shops Act supplied by the C. & D. It was unanimously decided to apply for an order closing all chemists' shops in Hornsey at 1 P.M. on Thursdays. It was further suggested that a closing order should be obtained for regulating closing times on other days as follows: For Highgate, Muswell Hill, and Crouch End—Saturdays, 10 P.M.; other days, 9 P.M. For Hornsey district—Saturdays—11 P.M.; other days, 10 P.M.

Cheltenham and Gloucester Pharmacists' Association.—A meeting was held on March 28 at the Plough Hotel, Cheltenham, the President (Mr. M. C. Mansbridge) in the chair. There were present also Messrs. W. Barron, F. T. Palmer, Freshfield Reynolds, J. A. Thomas, A. G. Saxby, H. B. Clark, J. Chambers, A. Hill, A. Milne, W. Marchant, W. H. Hampton, T. H. Hawley, C. H. James, W. Palmer, J. McLanahan, G. Walton, T. T. Dolman, and W. H. Hill (Hon. Secretary). Mr. R. J. Bowers, of Cinderford, was elected a member. In accordance with the organisation scheme of the Pharmaceutical Society an Organising Committee was formed as follows: The President (M. C. Mansbridge), Secretary (W. H. Hill), Assistant Secretary (T. T. Dolman), Divisional Secretary (J. A. Thomas), and F. T. Palmer. It was decided to subscribe two guineas to the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee on

Insurance, and members were also invited to send contributions, with the result that a total of 8*l.* was obtained. The *Shops Act* was next considered, the President opening the discussion, and all the members present taking part. Ultimately the matter was adjourned until the next meeting.

Glasgow Chemists' Assistants met at 51 West Regent Street, Glasgow, on Tuesday evening, April 2, on the invitation of the local Association, to hear what Mr. Buyers-Black, one of the Insurance lecturers, had to say about forming an approved Society. It was a big meeting. Mr. Black thought that chemists' assistants should form a National Approved Society, with branches in larger towns in England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales. If totalling five thousand valued by itself, and if the average number was thirty the reserve value credited would be about 20,000*l.*, on which 3 per cent. interest towards benefits would be paid by the Government. It would also have 1,000*l.* annually for expenses. Sickness benefit of 15*s.* weekly could be paid. Delay in forming such a society after May 15 would increase the difficulties, owing to competition among approved societies. For nine million recruits to these can be secured before July 15. A committee of ten—five employes and five employers—was appointed to go into the matter. It was stated that Glasgow could start at once, and have three years' grace in which to join up with others for valuation. Success means some voluntary work at first, but later they could have a paid secretary, and 4*s.* per head per annum is allowed by the State for this.

Wrexham Chemists' Association.—A meeting was held at the Imperial Hotel, Wrexham, on Monday, April 1. Present: Messrs. C. G. Caldecott (Chairman), L. B. Rowland, W. F. Harlowe, A. L. Francis, L. Edwards, J. H. Francis, D. Evans, J. E. Jones, and James B. Francis (Hon. Secretary). It was resolved to support Mr. J. B. Francis's candidature for the Pharmaceutical Council election. After Mr. J. B. Francis had given an account of his stewardship as a member of the Pharmaceutical Insurance Committee in London, the question as to where the *Welsh National Insurance Committee* should meet was discussed. Shrewsbury was mentioned, but it was agreed to hear what other Associations have to say on the matter. It was proposed by Mr. L. B. Rowland, seconded by Mr. Harlowe, and agreed to: "That this Association respectfully make the following suggestions: (a) That the Welsh National Pharmaceutical Committee shall consist of twelve registered pharmacists. (b) Nominations to be made by Welsh Local Associations. (c) Names of persons nominated to be submitted to a popular vote by means of two separate ballots. (d) North Wales members to ballot for five members of the Welsh National Committee. (e) South Wales members to ballot for seven members of the Welsh National Committee. (f) That an appeal be made to pharmacists throughout Wales to contribute a guarantee fund of 40*l.* per annum. (g) That third-class return fare to the adopted centre be paid to each member of the committee." The Association has given a donation of five guineas to the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee on Insurance.

Manchester Pharmaceutical Association.—As was briefly reported in the *C. & D.* last week, a meeting of pharmacists of Manchester, Salford, and district was held at the Victoria Hotel, Manchester, on March 27, for the purpose of discussing the Pharmaceutical Society's Federation Scheme and matters arising out of the Insurance Act and the Shops Act. Over 120 were present, of whom 105 signed the attendance-book, while over thirty new members joined the Association. Mr. Kirkby spoke on the necessity of pharmacists uniting into a solid body if pharmacy is to make any progress, and dealt with the causes which had prevented many from taking part in local Association work. The Council of the Association had felt the need of extending the influence of the Association, and a committee had recommended enlarging the Council. He emphasised the fact that wholesale and retail interests are identical in this matter of the Insurance Act, but said the future of pharmacy lies with the retailers, and it was therefore suggested that of the fifteen members of the proposed enlarged Council eight should be retailers. The Insurance Committee should consist entirely of retailers, to be elected annually on the principle of divisional representation, and should elect its own Chairman and Secretary. He moved: "That this meeting approves of the proposals with regard to the enlargement of the Council and the formation of the Insurance Committee." The motion was seconded by Mr. Kemp. Mr. Bates suggesting the addition of the words "and that the committee have power to co-opt three additional members." This, having been seconded by Mr. Beadle and carried, became the substantive motion. Mr. Kemp then explained the object of the Society's Federation Scheme, and as the Manchester representative on the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee on Insurance, he gave the meeting

information with regard to the working and constitution of the various committees which have been appointed to deal with National Insurance. He said the following resolution had been accepted by the Council of the Association for consideration at the business-meeting in April:

"That an Organisation Committee be formed for the purpose of co-operating in the Federation Scheme of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain. It shall consist of the members of the Council, the Chairman and Secretary of the Insurance Committee, together with the Divisional Secretaries of the Pharmaceutical Society for the Parliamentary Divisions of Gorton, Stretford, Prestwich, Eccles, and the several divisions of Manchester."

Mr. Bates then discussed the Shops Act, and moved the following resolution, which was seconded by Mr. Cleworth, and carried unanimously: "That this meeting is of opinion that every advantage should be taken of the Shops Act, 1911, by closing at 1 P.M. on Wednesdays." During the meeting a collection was made towards the fund for carrying on the work of the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee, the amount realised being 16*l.* 5*s.*

Festivities.

Whist-drive.—The last drive of the season held by the Oldham Pharmaceutical Association on March 26 attracted a good number of members and friends. The prizewinners were: *Ladies*—(1) Mrs. Stott, (2) Mrs. Kelly, (3) Mrs. Varley. *Gentlemen*—(1) Mr. W. Mellor, (2) Mr. R. B. Holden, (3) Mr. F. Milne. The drive was organised by Messrs. E. H. Holden and F. Newby.

The St. Vincent Association gave a Bohemian concert at the Café Monico on Friday, March 29, Mr. Sydney Jamieson (President) being in the chair. Among those present were Messrs. W. Browne (President Western Chemists' Association), Fletcher-Eaves (Saccharin Corporation), Harry Hickey and Stanley White (P., D. & Co.), Crepin (Felton & Crepin), Van Abbott, Menzies (Pinaud, Paris), M. L'Odin (Paris), G. Barat (Paris), Milner (J. P. Lippincotts, Ltd.), Merryweather (Oppenheimer, Son & Co.), C. W. Martin and Cooke-Jones (Maws), G. E. Davis (Armour's), Pitt (Hewlett's), Cullen (Toogood's), Daniel (Baiss Bros. & Stevenson), Lewis (Allen & Hanburys), G. D. Bowie and Osborne Reilly (D., F. & Co.), C. S. Presant and A. Milner (Sangers), Lionel Cooper, Izod, Parrott and Beale (Chas. Phillips Chemical Co.), E. F. Shackleford (Cresswell's), F. Noad Clarke, France (Public Dispensers' Association), W. R. Hart, Chas. Brooks, Louis Verdier, T. Gardiner (Consols. Ltd.), Jones (Spiers & Pond), C. Cheesewright, and J. James (Morny Freres, Ltd.). The programme was a long one, but quality was not sacrificed to quantity, for the entertainment was exceptionally good. Mr. Maurice Farkoa received a very vociferous welcome, and gave some of his most characteristic songs: Miss Annie Bartle was in splendid voice. Mr. Walter Kingsley, Mr. Selwyn Driver, Mr. Mark Hyam, Miss Mamie Buck, and Miss Amy Brook also contributed, and Master Lloyd Shakespeare gave cornet solos. Before the interval, Mr. W. F. Morice, the accompanist, played Sullivan's "In Memoriam," as a tribute to the memory of the founder and past-President of the Association, the late Mr. George Back; and the Chairman spoke appreciatively of Mr. Back's services to all in the Association. Before his death, after a lingering illness, he had expressed a wish that there should be no sorrow or mourning, and that this concert should not be cancelled. It is proposed to drink every year in future at these concerts a silent toast to his memory. The health of the Chairman was proposed by Mr. G. Duncan Bowie, who said that this was the finest and biggest meeting that the Association had had. Mr. Martin supported the toast, and, in replying, Mr. Jamieson attributed the success of the Association and the bigness of this meeting to the efforts of his predecessors and the splendid work of Mr. Lionel Cooper, in recognition of which it is proposed to approach members shortly.

MR. T. A. WHITE, Ph.C., of Southsea, is a candidate for the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain. He is popular with his fellow-pharmacists in his neighbourhood, and is well known to many others in Great Britain. His election address is printed in the Coloured Supplement of this issue, p. xxxi. It is a terse expression of sound views.

GERMAN SPIRIT PRODUCTION.—The rise in prices recently announced by the Spirit Centrale has, it is stated, attracted the attention of the Government to the fact that the spirit production of the past year has fallen below the average, and the Bundesrat is now considering the best means of promoting the production of spirit and checking the tendency towards an excessive advance in prices.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN.

Council-meeting.

THE monthly meeting was held at 16 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C., on April 3. The President referred to the death of M. Petit (Paris) and Mr. A. E. Ekins (St. Albans), and the Treasurer mentioned that the Stephen Darby legacy of 500*l.* had been received by the Benevolent Fund. From this Fund grants of 136*l.* were made to eight applicants. The Society is to forward a congratulatory address to the Royal Society, the 250th anniversary of the foundation of which is to be celebrated in July. It was also resolved to appoint two delegates to the Fédération Internationale Pharmaceutique, the subscription for each being 100*l.* There was some discussion regarding the dissemination of pamphlets by the Local Associations' Committee on the Shops Act and the National Insurance Act, it being contended that these should be supplied to divisional secretaries and members of Council, as well as to the Committees of Local Associations. Dr. Symes raised the question of a report of the visit to Germany by Mr. Glyn-Jones and Professor Greenish regarding the working of the health insurance system in that country. The President explained that no report would be issued but that full details of the system have been placed at the disposal of the Standing Pharmaceutical Committee on Insurance. The President is to hold a reception at the King's Hall, Holborn Restaurant, on May 8, that being the day upon which a meeting is called for the purpose of electing an English Committee on Insurance. The prize awards to the students in the advanced course of the School of Pharmacy were confirmed, these include two silver medals to James Small, and medals to S. H. Stroud and A. N. D. Pullen. There were thirty-four nominations for the seven vacancies on the Council, and twelve nominees have consented to stand if elected. In addition to the seven retiring councillors, who offer themselves for re-election, the new candidates are: Messrs. E. W. C. Battle (Ripon), J. B. Francis (Wrexham), J. C. Kidd (Manchester), F. Pilkington Sargeant (Leeds), and T. A. White (Southsea). The Government visitor, in his report which the Council received from the Privy Council, dwells upon the improvement in the percentages of passes in the Minor examination, and is gratified that so many pharmacists take the Major examination.

THE councillors present were: Mr. C. B. Allen (President), Mr. W. L. Currie (Vice-President), Mr. W. H. Gibson (Treasurer), and Messrs. F. E. Bilson, W. G. Cross, J. H. Cuff, F. J. Gibson, R. L. Gifford, D. Gilmour, A. Hagon, J. Harrison, E. T. Neathercoat, F. A. Rogers, P. F. Rowsell, C. Symes, R. C. Walshaw, E. White, and J. R. Young.

After the minutes had been read, the PRESIDENT said he hoped members would help him in expediting the business, as the country members desired to catch early trains back, otherwise, owing to the dislocated train service, some would not be able to reach their homes that day.

DEATHS.

The PRESIDENT said he had to chronicle the death of M. Petit, of Paris, an honorary member of the Society, who came to this country on the occasion of the Society's jubilee in 1891 and presented an address of congratulation from the Paris Society of Pharmacy. He also visited London at the time of the International Congress of Pharmacy. Reference was also made to the death of Councillor A. E. Ekins, of St. Albans, who did an immense

amount of public work, and had filled the office of Mayor of St. Albans.

ELECTIONS AND RESTORATIONS.

Forty-three members were elected and sixty-six persons were restored to their former position in the Society. Eighteen student associates were elected. One name was restored to the Register of Chemists and Druggists.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The report of the Finance Committee was then presented by the TREASURER. The receipts of the General Fund amounted to 5,473*l.* 7*s.* 8*d.* with the balance on February 28. The receipts were made up as follows: Penalties and costs, 67*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.*; subscriptions, 1,198*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.*; "Journal" and publications, 798*l.* 13*s.* 11*d.*; school-fees, 4*l.* 4*s.*; registration-fees, 88*l.* 4*s.*; restoration-fees, 9*l.* 4*s.*; examination-fees, 1,687*l.* 14*s.*; sale of registers, 122*l.* 10*s.*; dividend on Water Board stock, 8*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.* The balance remaining after making the payments authorised last month was 2,638*l.* 5*s.* 5*d.* The sums recommended for payment amounted to 1,630*l.* 4*s.* 10*d.*, made up as follows: "Journal" and publications, 509*l.* 2*s.* 7*d.*; stationery, etc., 121*l.* 0*s.* 8*d.*; current expenses, 300*l.*; salaries, etc., 364*l.* 17*s.*; school and examinations, 64*l.* 1*s.* 2*d.*; law charges, 21*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.*; house, 233*l.* 2*s.* 2*d.*; library, 11*l.* 6*s.* 9*d.*; Chelsea Physic Garden, 5*l.* 5*s.* The balance on the Benevolent Fund general account was shown as 749*l.* 15*s.* 7*d.*; donation account, 59*l.* 15*s.* 1*d.*; and on the Orphan Fund, 87*l.* 15*s.* 10*d.*

Moving the adoption of the report, the TREASURER said the item for subscriptions was considerably less than last February, but, as the payments had also decreased, the balance remaining is normal. The subscriptions to the Benevolent Fund were 106*l.* less than the corresponding period of last year, but the Fund has received a legacy of 500*l.* from the executors of the late Stephen Darby. The Committee also sanctioned the expenditure required by the Local Associations' Committee for entertainment purposes during the second week in May. This is a matter of 50*l.*, and is an expenditure upon which, said the Treasurer, the Council should not be stingy.

The report was adopted.

BENEVOLENT COMMITTEE.

The report of this Committee was taken *in camera*, after which

Mr. F. J. GIBSON (Chairman) moved its adoption. He mentioned that 136*l.* had been voted in grants to eight cases which came before the Committee, an almost identical amount to that granted at the March meeting last year.

Mr. WALSHAW said that during the annual dinner of the Harrogate Pharmaceutical Association, which he attended last month on behalf of the Council, he received a cheque for five guineas for the Benevolent Fund. The money was the proceeds of a tablet which local chemists sell.

The report was adopted.

LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

The report of the Library, Museum, School, and House Committee was next presented by Mr. WHITE. Among the items in this was the payment of accounts for repairs (7*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.*) and electric wiring (12*l.* 16*s.*). The Royal Society having informed the Society that it will celebrate its 250th anniversary on July 16 and the following days, the Committee recommend that the President be appointed to represent the Society, and that he then present an address of congratulation. The question of adhesion to the Fédération Internationale Pharmaceutique was further considered, and it was recommended that two delegates be appointed, the subscription being 100*l.* each. The Society from its membership is entitled to send eight delegates.

Mr. WHITE explained these and other items, and

The PRESIDENT mentioned that the "Old Boys' Club" meeting is to be held on April 17 in the lecture-theatre.

The report was adopted.

LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS' COMMITTEE.

Mr. NEATHERCOAT presented the report of this Committee, which mentioned the meeting held during the past month and the steps being taken to form County Associations. The appointment of Organisation Committees is

being made by the Local Associations, but it was explained that the Scotch Associations are not taking part in this portion of the scheme because the conditions in Scotland are different, and because the organisation work there is done by the Executive of the North British branch. The Committee considered specimen prints of information prepared by the Assistant Secretary respecting the Shops Act and the National Insurance Act, which it was recommended should be furnished to the Association Committees as soon as they are established. These it was explained would help Local Associations in discussing national questions.

Mr. Cross was glad the County Associations were being formed, and instanced Shropshire as particularly suited for this method of organisation.

Some discussion took place as to the dissemination of the pamphlets of organising information, it being contended that these should be sent to divisional officers without waiting for the formation of Associations, and the PRESIDENT suggested that the pamphlets should be supplied to members of Council.

Dr. SYMES, referring to the Insurance Act pamphlet, said he understood that if medical men do not fall into line the medical-benefit will be in abeyance, so that the organising committees will be unable to do anything. He also inquired whether any report was to be issued as to the working of health insurance schemes abroad, to investigate which two officers of the Society were sent abroad. Had all this been abortive? (Cries of "No! No!") His point was that he did not remember that the Council had received the details of the investigation.

Mr. GILMOUR mentioned the steps that are being taken in Scotland in regard to the National Insurance Act.

The report was adopted, and afterwards, in reply to Dr. Symes, the PRESIDENT said that all the information collected by the Society's representatives during their investigations abroad is in the hands of the Standing Committee on Insurance, and is being utilised. No report will be presented otherwise than that made verbally by Mr. Glyn-Jones, but all the information and a portmanteau full of documents have been placed at the disposal of the committee.

Dr. SYMES said he was not complaining, but had thought that the information would have been of use to officers of the Society.

Mr. HARRISON considered the explanation satisfactory, and

Mr. GILMOUR was glad it had been made, as the question has frequently been put as to what has become of the information, which he thought would assist local committees in drawing up tariffs.

An interim report of the Local Associations Committee was also presented. This dealt with the arrangements that have been made for meeting country members in London in the second week in May. These include a reception by the President on the evening of May 8 in the King's Hall, Holborn Restaurant, W.C., and facilities on the other days of the week for visiting the Society's premises.

Mr. NEATHERCOAT, in presenting this report, regretted that it had not been possible to arrange for a conference of delegates from local Associations, but thought this could be arranged in a year or so.

Mr. WALSHAW and Mr. GILMOUR approved of the arrangements, and the PRESIDENT having referred to the successful meetings held on this occasion last year, the interim report was adopted.

INSURANCE MATTERS.

The report of the Parliamentary and General Purposes Committee stated that Mr. Rowsell attended and explained the work of the Standing Committee on Insurance on the lines of the report which has been published. The committee desired the Council to confirm the nominations of representatives on the Standing Committee. The question was also considered of the proposed Select Committee on Proprietary Medicines. A number of questions from the Dewsbury Association were left for reply by the President.

COUNCIL PRIZES.

The Committee recommended the following awards to advanced students of the School of Pharmacy:

BOTANY.—*Silver Medal*, James Small. *Certificates of Honour*, Alfred N. Pullen and W. N. Warwick

CHEMISTRY AND PHYSICS.—*Silver Medal*, Sydney H. Stroud. *Certificates of Honour*, Herbert A. Phillips and Frances A. Ost.

PRACTICAL CHEMISTRY.—*Silver Medal*, Alfred N. D. Pullen. *Certificates of Honour*, Sydney H. Stroud and James Small.

MATERIA MEDICA.—*Silver Medal*, James Small. *Certificates of Honour*, Sydney H. Stroud and Herbert A. Phillips.

Mr. ROWSELL said the meeting for electing representatives on the English Insurance Committee has been fixed for Wednesday during the week of the Chemists' Exhibition. This will afford an opportunity for obtaining a representative meeting of pharmacists. The date had been deferred till May for this reason, but there has been no undue delay whatever. The interests of English pharmacists are being watched very carefully by the International Committee. In regard to the visit of Mr. Glyn-Jones and Professor Greenish to Germany, he added that Professor Greenish is a member of the committee, and a mine of valuable information which enables him to solve many difficult problems that arise during the discussions. It is hoped to be able to report the members of the Welsh committee in a few days.

Mr. GILMOUR, referring to the prize-list, said he hoped that the distribution of the honours would cause no jealousy.

The PRESIDENT said Scotland has certainly got its fair share, but he noted that the ladies were not so much in evidence.

It was suggested that perhaps they are too busy breaking windows, or that leap-year has something to do with the matter.

The report was adopted.

NOMINATIONS FOR COUNCIL.

The SECRETARY reported that he had received thirty-four nominations for Councillors, and that of these the following twelve had expressed their willingness to serve if elected:

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| C. B. Allen, London. | D. Gilmour, Dunfermline. |
| E. W. C. Battle, Ripon. | J. C. Kidd, Manchester. |
| A. S. Campkin, Cambridge. | E. J. Neathercoat, Weybridge. |
| W. G. Cross, Shrewsbury. | F. Pilkington Sargeant, Leeds. |
| J. B. Francis, Wrexham. | R. C. Walshaw, Huddersfield. |
| F. J. Gibson, Wolverhampton. | T. A. White, Southsea. |

The SECRETARY, in reply to a question, said that many of the nominations were out of order because either the nominees or nominators had not paid their subscriptions.

GOVERNMENT VISITOR'S REPORT.

The Privy Council sent a copy of the report of Dr. W. H. Willcox, the Government Visitor to the examinations held in London. There were 607 candidates for the Minor in 1911, of whom 278 passed, a percentage of 45.8. This compares satisfactorily with the average for six years of 36.17, and the increased proportion of successful candidates makes up for the fall in the number of candidates. After analysing the causes of failure, the Government Visitor descants upon the marked improvement in the knowledge and training of the candidates, and contends that the majority of the unsuccessful candidates owed their failure to the fact that they had not had the advantage of a systematic course of training in practical chemistry and pharmacy. For the Major examination there were sixty-four candidates, of whom forty-three passed—a percentage of 67.2. The Visitor reports that not only was the number of candidates greater, but that the standard of efficiency was much higher.

OTHER MATTERS.

The Privy Council approved of the new by-laws.

The Registrar reported that he had registered forty-four apprentices or students during the month.

Five Divisional Secretaries were appointed.

The Public Pharmacists' and Dispensers' Association wrote a second letter complaining of the unrepresentative character of the Standing Committee on Insurance.

The PRESIDENT said the Association have been invited to

send a representative to receive explanations on the matter, but the offer has not been accepted. He emphasised the fact that the Standing Committee is not under the control of the Pharmaceutical Society.

A member in Rhodesia wrote suggesting a smaller subscription for members resident abroad.

The Secretary in Scotland sent reports of the Executive's meeting, and also of the meeting of the Scottish pharmacists held on March 22.

The Manchester University desired acceptance of the Junior School Certificate of the Joint Matriculation Board.

The North Staffordshire Chemists' Association wrote in regard to the representation of chemists on local Health Committees.

The Private Schools Association send a resolution objecting to the proposal to establish a central Council and one entrance examination for the various professions.

The SECRETARY pointed out that the Council had already committed itself in favour of one portal.

This concluded the public business.

SCIENTIFIC PROGRESS.

Temperatures under this heading are on the Centigrade scale.

Zebronal.—This body is dibrom-cinnamic ethyl ester, and as put on the market by Merck as a remedy for epileptic troubles. It is insoluble in water, but soluble in alcohol. It contains 45 per cent. of bromine.

A Sao Paulo Ipecacuanha.—Hartwich ("Apotheker Zeit.," 1912, 62) describes an ipecacuanha root from Sao Paulo, which either is or closely resembles the root of *Ipecacuanha Tapgonca*. No alkaloid was found in this variety.

Cell-disintegration as practised in preparing bacterial toxins is the subject of an interesting article in "Nature" of March 7 (p. 21). Two forms of apparatus are shown, and also the effect of about a quarter of an hour's disintegrating treatment of yeast-cells.

Santalyl Lactate.—A patent has been granted (1007587 U.S.A.) in the United States for the preparation of the lactic ester of santalol by heating together sandalwood oil and lactic acid, sp. gr. 1.200. The resulting ester boils at 250°-260° under a pressure of 380 mm., and is sp. gr. 1.030-1.040. It is stated to be preferable to santalol for medicinal purposes.

German Researches.—The "Archiv der Pharmazie" for March 20, 1912, contains the following papers: On our knowledge of peristaltin, by A. Tschirch and L. Monikowski; on the oleo-resin of *Abies cephalonica*, by E. J. Emmannell, who also communicates a note on the ladanum of Crete; the glucoside of the leaves of *Digitalis purpurea*, by F. Kraft; on some derivatives of propiophenones, by F. W. Calless; and on ephedrin and pseudoephedrin, by E. Schmidt.

A New Active Principle of Ergot.—Burmam ("Schweiz. Woch. Chem. Pharm.," 1912, 85), in a paper on ergot of rye, reports that he has isolated from ergot a new base, which has a very similar physiological action to that of adrenalin, and which is in all probability tyrosamine (para-oxyphehyl-ethylamine), corresponding with a synthetic preparation in all characters. It melts at 160°, and easily sublimes. It is a powerful base, slightly soluble in water, easily so in alcohol or boiling xylene.

Essential-oil Notes.—Rabak ("Midland Druggist and Pharm. Review," 1911, 484) reports on a number of essential oils, and gives the following details as the result of his examination. The leaves of *Myrica cerifera* yielded 0.015 per cent. of oil having the following characters: Sp. gr. 0.9168, rotation -1.5°, refractive index 1.4945, acid-value 5.5, ester-value 21, acetyl-ester value 58. From *Pluchea fatida*, one of the North American *Compositae*, 0.025 per cent. of a yellow oil, with the following characters, was obtained: Sp. gr. 0.9329, rotation -10.8°, refractive index 1.4845, acid-value 4.1, ester-value 44, acetyl-ester value 104. The oil contained much cineol. The leaves of *Magnolia glauca* yielded 0.05 per cent. of an odorous oil of sp. gr. 0.924, rotation +3.96°, refractive index 1.4992, acid-value 1.8, ester-value 13, and acetyl-ester value 23. The West Indian *Cedrela* wood yielded 0.3 per cent. of oil of sp. gr. 0.947, refractive index 1.5038, acid-value 3.9, ester-value 41.5, and acetyl-ester value 51.

TRADE REPORT.

The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers receive the goods into stock, after which much expense may be incurred in garbling and the like. Qualities of chemicals, drugs, oils, and many other commodities vary greatly, and higher prices than those here quoted are charged for selected qualities of natural products even in bulk quantities. Retail buyers cannot, therefore, for these and other reasons, expect to purchase at the prices quoted here.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., April 3.

ALTHOUGH the markets are still under the shadow of the colliers' strike there has been a less depressed feeling in commercial circles, as it is daily becoming evident that a general resumption of work will take place after the Easter holidays. Meanwhile business in the heavy chemical markets, in spite of the adverse influences, is good, and everything points to a brisk inquiry when normal conditions again prevail. Values generally are tending higher owing to lessened production, scarcity of fuel, and difficulties of transport. All ammonia products are dearer, these including sulphate, nitrate, carbonate, sal ammoniac, etc. Copper sulphate has advanced considerably owing to smaller production and the advance in metal. Copperas is also 5s. to 7s. 6d. dearer, and a further rise has taken place in benzols. Among fine chemicals the principal movements include a decline in morphine and codeine and their salts. Citric acid and glycerin are both firmer. Milk-sugar is cheaper, and cod-liver oil weak. Iodine preparations are still unsettled. Bromides are now firm, as the German Bromide Convention continues as hitherto until the remainder of 1912. Other alterations include an advance in cummin-seed, Florentine orris, glucose, and starches. Cascara sagrada and menthol are in firmer sentiment. Quinine is dearer and in more demand, the March shipments of bark being very small. Mexican sarsaparilla and turpentine are cheaper. The following table gives the principal alterations of the week:

| Higher | Firmer | Easier | Lower |
|------------------|-------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Anmon. carbonate | Capsicin | Atropine | Cocoa-butter |
| Anmon. nitrate | Cascara | Lemon oil | Codeine and salts |
| Benzols | Citric acid | Orange oil | Milk-sugar |
| Copper | Glycerin | Pilocarpine | Morphine salts |
| | Menthol | Quicksilver (sec. hands) | |
| | Turmeric | Sarsaparilla (Vera Cruz) | |
| Cummin-seed | | Turpentine | |
| Glucose | | | |
| Iron sulphate | | | |
| Orris (Flor.) | | | |
| Quinine | | | |
| Sal ammoniac | | | |
| Starches | | | |

Cablegrams.

BERGEN, April 3.—The total catch of cod for the whole of Norway since the beginning of the season amounts to 54,300,000, against 28,160,000 at the corresponding date of last year. The total yield of steam-refined oil is now 42,243 hectolitres, against 20,023 hectolitres at the same period of 1911. The market for finest new non-congealing Norwegian oil is weak at 67s. per barrel, c.i.f. terms.

AMSTERDAM, March 28.—At the auction of cinchona held here to-day 8,675 packages, weighing 712,638 kilos., were offered, the quinine-content of which is 44,345 kilos. Of the above quantity 5,422 packages sold at the average unit of 3.40 cents per half-kilo., against 3.07 cents in February, an advance of 11 per cent. The approximate purchases of quinine were as follows: (1) The English and American factories, 7,066 kilos.; (2) the Brunswick factory,

1,264 kilos.; (3) the Mannheim factory, 4,848 kilos.; (4) the Amsterdam factory, 2,277 kilos.; (5) the Frankfurt and Stuttgart factories, 1,080 kilos.; (6) the Maarsse factory, 1,090 kilos.; (7) various buyers, 8,222 kilos. The prices paid for manufacturing bark ranged from 8½c. to 34c., and for druggists' bark from 6½c. to 42½c. per half-kilo. The above result shows that about only the equivalent of 25,907 kilos. of quinine sulphate was disposed of, leaving 18,438 kilos. bought in or withdrawn. A further quantity was subsequently sold at higher rates.

London Markets.

ALCOHOL.—The withdrawal of the rebate on spirit for methylating purposes, which is announced by the Combination as from April 1, is equivalent to an advance of 1d. per proof gal. The price of British grain-spirit from the Combination is now 1s. 4d. per proof gal. in bond, while druggists' quality from an "outside" source is offered at 1s. 3d. per proof gal. in bond, being also 1d. advance.

ALOES.—Business has been done in Curaçao in boxes at 42s. 6d. per cwt. c.i.f., being firm.

AMMONIUM CARBONATE.—On April 1 the makers announced an advance of ¼d. per lb., the quotation in casks now being 3½d. per lb. net, and ¼d. extra for powder.

AMMONIUM NITRATE has advanced from 35l. to 36l. per ton for quantity.

BELLADONNA-ROOT is pressed for sale, but there is no demand at the moment.

BROMIDES.—At a recent general meeting of the German Bromide Convention, held on March 25, it was decided to continue the agreement up to December 31, 1912. Almost all the syndicated potash works have appealed against the quota allotted by the official distributing offices, and the potash allotments are therefore not yet regarded as definite. As the output of the bromide makers is, to a certain extent, dependent on the allotments of the potash works, the only way of avoiding injustice to the bromide works (says a German report) is to postpone the negotiations till all the appeals have been lodged. In view of the above statement the opinion is expressed in London that the general position of bromides may now be considered firm until at least the end of the current year, and that there need be no hesitation in placing orders. In second-hands a limited quantity of *potassium* bromide is offered at 1s. 3d. to 1s. 3½d. per lb.

BUCHU.—The *Edinburgh Castle* has brought 44 packages from Cape Town, the bulk of which is in transit for New York. A fair amount of business has been done in round leaf at previous prices.

CAMPHOR (REFINED).—Quiet. Holders on the spot quote 1s. 6d. for 2½ lb. Japanese slabs and 1s. 7½d. for 1-oz. tablets; for April-May shipment small sales of slabs have been made at 1s. 6½d. for slabs, 1s. 7½d. for ¼-oz., and 1s. 7½d. for 1-oz. tablets on c.i.f. terms.

CANARY-SEED is firm but quiet; the immediate position depends upon the next Morocco crop, which is said to be suffering from drought. Prices are unchanged at 48s. to 50s. per quarter for ordinary quality and 51s. to 52s. for good.

CAPSICIN.—The makers have advanced their price by 6d. per lb. to 13s., unless for quantity.

CARBOLIC ACID.—Two of the leading makers in the North still maintain their prices for crystals, one quoting 40° C. solid crystals at 9d. in bulk packing, but in London 7½d. per lb. is quoted, and 7½d. for 34° to 35° C. Liquid cresylic 95-per-cent. is offered at 1s. 8d. to 1s. 9d. *Crude* is easier, 60-per-cent. offering at 2s. 8d. for prompt delivery on the East and West Coast.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—The fact that the London stock was reduced to 268 tons during March has given a firmer tone. Some very heavy arrivals took place during March, as we reported, but as the stock list only shows landings of ten tons, the inference is that these arrivals have gone direct to consumers. Business has been done at 38s. for new bark on the spot, and 42s. 6d. has been paid for old.

CINCHONA.—The exports from Java during March were 812,000 Amst. lb. only, as compared with 1,493,000 Amst.

lb. in March 1911. The total shipments for the three months (January-March) now amount to 2,372,000 Amst. lb., against 3,860,000 Amst. lb., or 1,488,000 Amst. lb. less.

CITRIC ACID is dearer, the lowest price for foreign being 1s. 3½d., and some ask 1s. 4d. English is also higher at 1s. 4½d. nominal, as makers are well sold ahead.

CITRONELLA OIL.—Ceylon is steady on the spot at 1s. 2d. per lb., and for arrival 1s. c.i.f. has been paid.

COCA-LEAVES.—At the Amsterdam auction on March 28, of the 115,376 kilos. offered, 94,251 kilos. sold at from 1c. to 31½c. per half-kilo., the average result being 15.29c. against 16.14c. in the previous auction.

COCOA-BUTTER.—At the Amsterdam auction on April 2, 81 tons Van Houten's A sold at 79.60c., against 86.91c. in March; 34 tons B sold at 70.12c.; also 50 tons Blooker at 69.15c., and 20 tons other makes at 68.14c. to 73.12c.

COD-LIVER OIL remains practically unchanged, the quotations for leading brands of finest non-freezing Norwegian oil being from 62s. 6d. to 68s. per barrel c.i.f. terms. Some business has been done for autumn shipment at about these prices.

A cable advice received from Norway states that the catch and output of cod-liver oil up to March 30 was as follows:

| | | Catch of Cod | Livers for Raw Oil (hect.) | Yield of c.l.o. (hect.) |
|-----------------------|-----|-----------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Lofoten, 1912 | ... | 13,900,000 | 1,004 | 10,805 |
| " 1911 | ... | 8,900,000 | 650 | 6,858 |
| Whole of Norway, 1912 | ... | 53,300,000 | 6,715 | 41,541 |
| " 1911 | ... | 28,200,000 | 4,502 | 20,023 |

Our Bergen correspondent writes on March 30 that the cod-fishing continues satisfactory, being favoured by very fine weather. In Lofoten the season is now closing, many fishermen having already left the grounds to pass the Easter at home; they will continue the fishing at Finnmarken after the holidays. In the southern districts of Søndmøre and Romsdal the fishing is favourable, but there also it appears decreasing. The reports from Finnmarken are very promising, but it is too early to express an opinion of its extent at present. The market tendency is very weak, and prices are declining. Finest non-congealing Lofoten cannot be quoted above 64s. per barrel c.i.f.

The recent appointment of a Norwegian expert by the Newfoundland Government to instruct makers in the most up-to-date method of making cod-liver oil shows that Newfoundland is making a bid to regain its position. Although quality has immensely improved of late years and is still improving, it is very doubtful whether they will ever surpass Norway in this particular manufacture. It is also questionable whether in times of plenty in Norway, and the consequent low prices, whether it will pay the Newfoundland makers to spend the extra labour and cost in producing the highest class of oils, instead of the heavier and less expensive cod oils, which, being heavier and having more body, make them most suitable for leather-dressers.

CODINE.—On March 28 the makers of codeine and salts intimated a decline equivalent to 1s. 5d. per oz., the following being the scale of prices:

| | Small Lots. | Contracts over 3 months. |
|---------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| | 35 oz. | 100 oz. |
| Pure Crystals | 18s. 9d. | 18s. 4d. |
| " Precip. | 18s. 9d. | 18s. 4d. |
| Hydrochloride | 17s. 11d. | 17s. 6d. |
| Sulphate | 17s. 11d. | 17s. 6d. |
| Phosphate | 17s. 1d. | 16s. 8d. |

The above are per oz. net cash; the falling clause is discontinued.

COPAIBA has been in fair demand, and with the small stocks here prices are firm, with a rising tendency; from 2s. 1d. to 2s. 3d. per lb. is quoted, according to quality and holder.

COPPER SULPHATE shows a strong advance, amounting in all to about 15s. per ton, ordinary Liverpool brands for prompt delivery offering at 24l. to 24l. 5s.; May, 23l. 17s. 6d. to 24l.; and June, 23l. 15s. per ton.

CORIANDER-SEED is selling slowly at 14s. 6d. per cwt. for Morocco.

CREAM OF TARTAR is firm at 83s. for 98-per-cent. powder and 81s. for 95-per-cent.

CUMIN-SEED is dearer. Sales of Morocco have been made at 21s. 6d. to 22s. 6d. per cwt., but 24s. is now asked. Malta is unchanged at 27s. to 28s. per cwt. for ordinary quality.

EUCALYPTUS OIL is steady at from 1s. 2d. to 1s. 2½d. per lb. for B.P. qualities.

FENUGREEK-SEED is in more demand, with fair business at 9s. 6d. to 10s. per cwt., according to quantity.

GINGER.—The sales in Liverpool include 30 tons new crop Sierra Leone to arrive at 27s. to 27s. 6d. per cwt.

GLUCOSE has advanced a further 9d. per cwt., the usual brands of liquid and crystals offering at 14s. 1½d. per cwt., in lots of at least 25 barrels, smaller quantities being 3d. per cwt. more. See also *Starches*.

GLYCERIN.—The fact that two important members of the Glycerin Association have definitely withdrawn their resignations of membership for the present, as stated in last week's issue, has given a decidedly firmer tone to the market, both at home and abroad. Business has been done from dealers' hands at 82l. per ton in drums (an advance of about 2l.) for Continental make of chemically pure, and there is only a limited quantity available at this price. The official price for British make of chemically pure in 5-ton lots naked in drums is 85l., and 89l. in tins in cases. *Crude* has advanced about 6l. per ton altogether.

GRAINS OF PARADISE.—The price from Hamburg is 80s. per cwt. c.i.f., and some business has been done.

HYDRASTIS is firm, spot holders offering at 22s. 6d. per lb. net, which is equal to the price asked on the other side.

IGNATIUS BEANS.—There is a further inquiry on the market, but nothing is available except from second-hands, for which about 60s. is wanted.

IODINE PREPARATIONS.—The position remains exactly as given last week—i.e., all prices are temporarily withdrawn, but orders are accepted at prices to be fixed after that of iodine has been decided; in no case will the prices exceed those quoted in the March list. Last week we reported the registration of a new British company to manufacture iodine, iodides, etc., but we have reason to believe that competition from this quarter will be a negligible quantity, and that the chief factor contributing to the unsettled market is, as we stated last week, dissensions between the Chilean producers of crude iodine.

IRON SULPHATE has advanced 7s. 6d., offering at from 47s. 6d. to 50s. per ton for bulk quantities.

LEMON OIL.—An advice from Palermo dated March 30 reports an inactive week, with the absence of any export demand and the local requirements for March delivery no longer influencing the market. The feeling of tiredness referred to last week has continued, and although sellers are reserved, trying to maintain prices, the position is certainly easier, and for the few parcels which changed hands it has been possible to obtain slight reductions on last week's figures. It would appear that the period of excitement prevalent for so long is temporarily over. The future depends on the demand from foreign buyers and on the pressure that the covering of same will exert on our market. In fact, bull operators have still a strong position in Sicily, and will watch any favourable opportunity in order not to lose ground. For prompt shipment new crop is quoted at 6s. 4½d. per lb. c.i.f. terms, and on the spot the value of good brands is 6s. 6d.

LIME-JUICE is very firm, with sales of good pale unracked West Indian up to 2s. 3d. per gal. Very little appears to be offered on the open market.

LINSEED is firm at 67s. to 70s. per quarter for fair to good Dutch and 71s. for Morocco.

MENTHOL.—The fact that ten cases of Kobayashi have been sold at 21s. 6d. per lb. on the spot gives a better tone to the market; there are further buyers at 21s. 6d. but no sellers under 22s. Towards the close of last week business was reported in April-May shipment at 21s. 3d. c.i.f., at which price there are further buyers.

The exports from Japan during January were as follows:

| | 1910 | 1911 | 1912 |
|------------|--------|---------|---------|
| Kin | 8,767 | 16,019 | 16,482 |
| Yen | 43,817 | 104,204 | 186,352 |

The *peppermint-oil* exports during January were 22,124 kin against 20,109 kin in 1911 and 18,946 kin in 1910.

MILK-SUGAR is still tending downwards, B.P. powder offering for prompt delivery at 67s. per cwt., and for May-

June there are offers at several shillings below this figure, but no buyers.

MORPHINE.—The makers announce a reduction as from April 1, of 10d. per oz., the quotation for hydrochloride powder now being 12s. 9d. per oz., and crystals 12s. 11d.; acetate 12s. 9d., meconate 16s. 1d., sulphate crystals 12s. 11d., powder 12s. 9d., tartrate 15s. 11d.; pure crystals (alkaloid) 16s. 1d. and precipitated 12s. 9d. per oz. net cash, no reduction clause.

ORRIS.—Florentine has further advanced, fair sorts offering for prompt shipment from Italy at 50s. per cwt. c.i.f. Since the beginning of the year the advance amounts to about 3s. per cwt.

OPIMUM.—A holiday feeling prevails in this market, and there is nothing new to report, business being at a standstill, so that last week's information still holds good. A Smyrna correspondent writes on March 22 that the sales this week amount to 4 cases current tale quale qualities at 17s. 6d. for the U.S.A. The position continues unaltered for the more eligible qualities, such as rich Karahissars and Yerlis, but although, nominally, we are to-day at 24s. to 26s., we think many of our sellers will consent to sell at 2s. to 3s. per lb. cheaper if a buyer came forward. The arrivals in Smyrna amount to 1,150 cases, against 4,412 cases at same date last year.

ORANGE OIL.—An advice from Palermo dated March 30 reports an inactive market, and owing to this slightly easier figures would be accepted; for shipment *sweet* of new crop is quoted 8s. 3½d. and *bitter* 8s. 4½d. per lb., c.i.f. terms.

OTTO OF ROSE is very steady, according to advices from Constantinople, and the price of new crop is not expected to open at below the present rates.

PETROL.—The price of petrol is now 40 per cent. above what it was a year ago, and it has been suggested that the advance is due to the shortage of supplies. There has, however, been no falling-off in the imports, which for the year to date are only 1 per cent. smaller than in the corresponding period of 1911, so that this can hardly account for the substantial rise. A material increase is shown in the imports of the Royal Dutch-Shell Transport Combine, the shipments from the Dutch Indies being up by nearly 150 per cent. and from Holland by fully 75 per cent. Roumanian shipments, which are largely, it is understood, controlled by the combine, have also increased substantially. On the other hand, the imports of the Standard Oil Co. would appear to have declined by some 40 per cent. Evidence points to the fact that the Royal Dutch-Shell Transport Co. and the Standard Oil Co. are now working together in regulating prices.

POTASSIUM IODIDE.—The exports from Japan during January 1912 amounted to 3,139 kin, against 3,118 kin in January 1911 and 5,833 kin in January 1910. The *crude iodine* exports were 2,634 kin in January 1912, against 3,928 kin and 567 kin in January 1911 and 1910 respectively.

QUICKSILVER.—Importers' quotation is unchanged at 8l. 12s. 6d., and in second-hands 8l. 8s. per bottle is quoted, being 6d. easier.

QUININE is dearer, and at the close, sales (including 20,000 oz.), B. and S. make, have been made to consumers and speculators at the official price of 7½d. for German sulphate. In second-hands, Amsterdam and Java has been sold at 6¾d., and to-day 7d. has been paid. The advance may be attributed to the small shipments of bark for March, and the substantial decrease for the quarter (January-March); also to the fact that bark advanced 11 per cent. at Amsterdam last week.

RHUBARB.—The *Tango Maru* has brought 31 cases from Shanghai.

SAL AMMONIAC.—The makers have advanced their prices by 2l. per ton to 44l. for first quality lump and 42l. for second quality lump.

SARSAPARILLA.—Vera Cruz is offered at the easier rate of 7½d. per lb. on spot, the quotation to arrive having been reduced to 6¾d., c.i.f. terms. The position as noted last week has become accentuated as regards scarcity of sarsaparilla, but no business is expected until the auction on April 18.

STARCHES.—Maize starch has advanced a further 3d. to 6d. per cwt. to 12s. 6d. to 12s. 9d. for powdered; *pearl* is also 3d. to 6d. dearer at 12s. 3d. to 12s. 6d. in lots of at least two tons; smaller quantities are 3d. per cwt. extra.

TARTARIC ACID is very firm at 1s. 0½d. for foreign and 1s. 0¾d. for English.

TURMERIC.—Cochin split bulbs are now held for 18s. per cwt., an advance of 3s., and for March-May shipment 15s. 9d. c.i.f. is quoted; Bengal finger is quoted at 20s. 6d. c.i.f. and Madras is steady at 26s. to 26s. 6d. for fair finger on the spot.

TURPENTINE has declined to 34s. 6d. per cwt. for American on the spot.

WAX, JAPANESE.—Small spot sales are reported at 43s., and for April-May shipment 43s. c.i.f. has also been paid.

Manchester Chemical-market.

April 2.

Owing to unfavourable conditions, caused by the coal strike, there is very little to note in the way of change in heavy chemicals in this centre during the past week. On home account, deliveries are hampered by the railway companies declining to take practically anything but food-stuffs, but there is more activity to be noted in the export trade. Bleaching-powder is in good inquiry, and on contract is quoted 4l. 2s. 6d. to 4l. 10s. per ton, according to quantity, in softwood casks, on rails at works. Caustic soda and ammonia alkali quiet. In the last-named article the new prices will come into operation on July 1. This has been caused mainly by the keen competition among local makers. Nitrate of soda continues to sell at full rates, and borax in fair inquiry. Potashes steady. Sal-ammoniac higher, and muriate of ammonia in moderate request only. Sulphur a shade easier; flowers, 8l. 10s., 2-cwt. bags; roll, 6l. 12s. 6d., 3-cwt. barrels; rock, 5l. 5s. to 5l. 10s., 3-cwt. bags; and recovered, 4l. 12s. 6d. to 4l. 15s. per ton, all on rails at works. Brown acetate of lime, 7l. 10s.; and grey, 11l. 10s. per ton, c.i.f. Owing to another advance in the raw metal, sulphate of copper is dearer, and quoted 24l. 7s. 6d. to 24l. 12s. 6d. per ton, delivered Manchester. Coal-tar products remain firm. Sulphate of ammonia is scarce, and is quoted 14l. 15s. to 14l. 17s. 9d. f.o.r. Manchester.

Heavy Chemicals.

Considering the difficulties under which the heavy-chemical market is labouring, business passing has certainly been beyond expectations. Deliveries have been got through to consumers better than was anticipated, and consequently stocks have either been cleared out altogether or elsewhere reduced very greatly. It is evident, too, that there will be a very brisk inquiry as soon as ever manufacturers get to work again. Values all round are well maintained and are firm.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA firm and dearer. Beckton, prompt, 25-per-cent. ammonia guaranteed, 14l. 5s.; London terms, 14l. to 14l. 2s. 6d.; Leith, 15l. to 15l. 1s. 3d.; Liverpool, 15l. to 15l. 1s. 3d.; and Hull, 14l. 17s. 6d. to 14l. 18s. 9d.

BENZOLS continue firm, and prices stand higher. Present naked figures: London, 90-per-cent., 11½d. to 1s., and 50-per-cent., 10½d. to 11d.; North, 10½d. to 11d. and 10d. to 10½d. respectively.

LEAD-PRODUCTS meet with a brisk inquiry and are on the firm side. Dry white lead, 24l., and red lead, 19l. per ton, Tyne; white acetate of lead, 25l. 10s. to 25l. 15s.; brown acetate of lead, 22l. 15s. to 23l.; and nitrate of lead, 26l. 10s. to 26l. 15s.—all per ton, less 2½ per cent.

BICHROMATES OF POTASH AND SODA are quiet at unaltered figures. Bichromate of potash, English and Scotch deliveries, 3½d. per lb., less 5 per cent.; and export, 3½d. per lb. net, f.o.b. Glasgow. Bichromate of soda, English and Scotch deliveries, 3d. per lb., less 5 per cent.; and export, 2¾d. per lb. net, f.o.b. Glasgow.

Continental Drug and Chemical Markets.

CARNAUBA WAX.—Conflicting reports on the Hamburg market have caused nervousness among consumers, who are holding back. In Brazil the market is steadier, and other markets (New York and Liverpool) have been buying freely in Brazil. The report is confirmed that, owing to the weather conditions, a considerably smaller crop may be expected. Prices in Hamburg are practically unchanged, little business being done; sandy grey is quoted at m.292.50, and fatty grey at m.312.50 to m.310 per 100 kilos., carriage paid.

ERGOL is steady in Hamburg. Small sales only are taking place. German is offered at m.6.75, and Russian at m.7.25. Spanish is firmly held at m.10.50 per kilo.

GLYCERIN.—The market is steadier and the demand more active. Paris continues to quote at fr.120. for saponification, and fr.97.50 for 80-per-cent. crude. In several instances business has been done at higher prices, including fr.125 for

saponification and fr.100 for 80-per-cent. crude. Sellers, who were showing signs of becoming discouraged, now expect an advance, and are very firm in respect of delivery over 1913. The quantities available for this year's delivery are small, and are difficult to obtain at current rates. Saponification for spot transactions and deliveries over 1912 is quoted at fr.120, delivery over 1913 at fr.117.50; 80-per-cent. is quoted at fr.100, delivery over 1912 at fr.97.50, and 1913 fr.95 per 100 kilos.

SPIRIT PREPS.—The rise in the price of spirit has affected other preparations. These include an advance in pure ether of m.15, in acetic ether of m.10, in absolute alcohol m.10, and collodion m.12 per 100 kilos. Only orders for immediate deliveries are being accepted.

Olive-oil Crops.

Marseilles, March 29.

THE crop of olives, and consequently the production of oil, has been abundant in all the producing countries during 1911-12. The stocks at the beginning of the new pressings were practically exhausted as much with buyers as with consumers; the demands became very active as soon as fresh oil was offered, and consequently prices have been continually advancing, and they are now on a fairly high level. The following information has been carefully collected from those in touch with the various markets, and is as accurate as it is possible to make it:

SPAIN.—The crop has been very abundant in the south, and a good average in the other producing centres. The following are the actual quotations: Borjas, 130f. to 135f.; Aragon, 140f. to 145f.; Andalusia, 128f. to 132f. per 100 kilos., on quay Marseilles. The first sales were made at from 5f. to 10f. lower. Notwithstanding the damage caused by the inundations, principally in the south, a very good crop is expected during 1912-13, but there is yet the possibility that frost will damage the crop.

ITALY, where the centres of production are principally the Riviera of Genoa, Lombardy, and Sicily, has had an average crop, which has been largely absorbed by local demands. Bari, Bitonto, and Molfetta on the one side, and Palermo and Syracuse on the other, have only exported small quantities. Officially no quotations are given at present, but without engagement prices are from 165f. to 175f. ex warehouse.

TUNIS has had an average crop in general, and a good one at Souss and Sfax. The qualities of Souss especially have been much appreciated. To-day the quotations are: Sfax, 135f. to 140f., and Souss, 130f. to 135f. The secondary qualities are from 2f. to 5f. cheaper.

ALGERIA.—In this country one has to consider two kinds of oil: the one from the valley of Bougie, somewhat dark in colour; the other from the pressing of the olives from the high plateaux and from the mountains, which is much paler than the former and to which is given the name of "Blanquette." This name is also given to pale wine and pale pears. The Bougie oil has been sold at 120f. to 125f. in bulk at Marseilles, and the "Blanquette" at 125f. to 135f., according to quality.

LEVANT.—The harvest is later this season, the first arrivals offering at the end of January. These oils are quoted at from 125f. to 130f., stored at the quay.

CORSICA, too, generally begins with the harvest at the end of January. These oils are to-day sold at from 120f. to 130f. for superfine and extras, and 115f. to 120f. for finest.

The market conditions of Lampantes (for lubricating purposes) are pretty well the same since the commencement of the season, and it is not anticipated that there will be any substantial change for the next few months. Quotations are: *Spain* (4 per cent. acid), 93f.; *Levant* (5 to 6 per cent. acid), 92f. per 100 kilos., in barrels, f.o.b. Marseilles; *Clairs de resence de pays* (extracted and cleared by chemical process from residues), 85f. to 90f.; *Resences brutes* (not cleared), 82f. to 85f. per 100 kilos., in bulk at Marseilles warehouse. *Pulp Oil* (green or yellow): *Tunis* (about 30 per cent. acid), 67f. to 68f., in bulk, Marseilles; *Spain* (15 to 20 per cent. acid), 72f. to 76f.; *Levant* (about 30 per cent. acid), 66f. to 67f., in barrels, f.o.b. Marseilles.

Notwithstanding the relative abundance of the crop, there are no large stocks existing in consequence of the considerable requirements of the world's demand, which is continually increasing, and though latterly the demand has slackened a little, after the first rush of business at the beginning of the season, it may soon again become very active. In a word the prospects indicate a firm situation until July or August, when it will be possible to know something about the outlook for the new crop.



Memoranda for Correspondents.

All communications must be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers, otherwise they cannot be dealt with. Queries by subscribers on dispensing, legal, and miscellaneous subjects connected with the business are replied to in these columns if they are considered to be of general interest.

Letters submitted for publication (if suitable) should be written on one side of the paper only. Their publication in "The Chemist and Druggist" does not imply Editorial agreement with the opinions expressed.

Atropine and Hyoscyamine Sulphates.

SIR,—In regard to atropine sulphate I should like to add to my note (*C. & D.*, March 30, index folio 483) that the German Pharmacopœia is right in representing the formula with one molecule of water, but the salt must be dried at a temperature over 100° C. (I used 115°-120°) to drive off the whole of the water. It appears that hyoscyamine sulphate and atropine sulphate differ not only in the amount of water of hydration, but in the readiness with which it is eliminated. With reference to strychnine sulphate, I quite agree that there is a hexa-hydrate. My contention is that the salt which crystallises in distinct prisms contains 5½ and not 5 molecules, as generally stated. I do not think that the salt which indicates H₂O, corresponding to 5½ molecules, is a mixture of two crystalline forms in about equal parts.

Yours, etc.,

D. B. DOTT.

The Midland Pharmaceutical Association.

SIR,—I fully endorse the remarks of Mr. H. O. Lloyd re the Midland Pharmaceutical Association in the *C. & D.*, March 30. I attended the meetings of the Association for some time, but was so disgusted with the whole proceedings that I eventually gave up wasting my time, for it was nothing else. As Mr. Lloyd says, the opinions of the Council are not the opinions of the majority of Birmingham pharmacists. If the Council is to represent the voice of the retail trade, it is essential that they keep more in touch with the individual members of the trade.

Yours truly,

M.P.S. (128/29.)

SIR,—In reply to Mr. Lloyd's letter in the correspondence columns of the *C. & D.*, March 30, re Shops Act in Birmingham, there must be some misapprehension in the minds of Messrs. Richards, Lloyd, and others with regard to the intentions of the Council as to the carrying out of the request (not instruction) of the members as embodied in the resolution passed at a meeting of pharmacists on March 6. The President and the majority of the Council were in favour of obtaining a closing order, but, having ascertained that there was no hurry, decided at the Council-meeting on March 20 to defer the consideration of obtaining a closing order for a time. With regard to previous actions of the Council not representing the bulk of the pharmacists and district, I can only say that during the three years of my being Hon. Secretary of the Midland Pharmaceutical Association I have not at any time received any complaint in any way except from Mr. Lloyd, who was then quite under a wrong impression, and when matters were explained to him expressed himself as quite satisfied. As to overriding the desires and requests of those pharmacists who are single-handed, and would thus appreciate a half-holiday, nothing was farthest from the thought. Our President, Mr. Corfield, is, and has been, most anxious during his two years of office to foster in every way a feeling of good-fellowship. I trust that the pharmacists of Birmingham and district will follow your correspondent's advice, join the local Association, and take a real live interest in its doings; his letter will then have done an immense amount of good. If at the next annual meeting a new Council is formed which is capable of carrying on the work of the Association in a more thorough and efficient manner than formerly, nothing will give me greater pleasure, as my one desire is to see the

Midland Pharmaceutical Association at least equal in strength and *personnel* to any in the country.

Yours faithfully,

H. BUCKINGHAM, Hon. Sec.

Frederick Road, Aston, Birmingham.

Our Competent Men.

SIR,—Your correspondent "S. L." is an unconscious humorist of a very amusing type. His anxiety in the interests of "competency" is comical to a degree. It occurs to me to inquire why, if this gentleman is so anxious to display his competency, he does not adopt the obvious course of passing his Preliminary and Minor examinations. Pharmacists have also served a "regular apprenticeship to a competent man"; but they have gone a step further, and, by qualifying themselves, proved that they have assimilated the knowledge the "competent man" has given them. The difference between qualified chemists and the class to which "S. L." belongs is mainly in ability, with all that this implies. I am old enough to have had some twenty apprentices myself. They all served a "regular apprenticeship" to, I hope, "a competent man," but among them there are a few, I am glad to say very few, "wasters," who will no doubt shortly display the proud "diploma" of the I.S.P. and D.S.P. It does not necessarily follow that all the latter are inferior to all the former, though on the average they may be so; but they certainly are not their equals in perseverance, and in that which is such an excellent substitute for genius, the "capacity for taking pains." In one or two instances success has been achieved by the process which excites the derision of "S. L."—viz., the "try, try, try again" method—and these I admire most. Indomitable courage, stern self-denial, and splendid perseverance have carried more than one to ultimate success, and such men no business or profession need despise. On the contrary, they should inspire every respect and admiration. I would advise "S. L." and others of his type who wish to reap where they have not sown, and who, by means of a florid but meaningless "diploma," pretend to a knowledge which they neither possess nor have "grit" or ability to acquire, to themselves make use of the "try, try again" system. To write letters in the tone of that of "S. L." can do no good to any cause, even a just one, and can certainly excite no feeling but contempt in the breast of anyone having the slightest knowledge of the position. "S. L." knows perfectly well that the serving of an apprenticeship, even to a "competent man," is only a part, though a very necessary part, of a chemist's training, and must be followed by continuous study, culminating in the passing of his examination. His argument implies that the serving of an apprenticeship to a "competent" man necessarily makes a "competent" man of the apprentice. Such reasoning would disgrace the bottom form of an infants' school. The moral is that chemists should be more careful in the selection of their boys, and then there would be few candidates for the "diploma" of the I.S.P. and D.S.P., for nearly all would become qualified pharmacists. You cannot, however, make a "silk purse out of a sow's ear," and it is equally difficult to make a pharmacist out of the stuff that some apprentices are made of: a sentiment that I have no doubt the "competent man" under whom "S. L." served his "regular apprenticeship" would heartily endorse.

Yours truly,

Wrexham.

L. B. ROWLAND.

Subscribers' Symposium.

For questions, answers, incidents, and interchange of opinions among "C. & D." readers.

Appreciations.

"I am sorry that I have omitted to send my subscription for THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST. I could not get along without it. It has saved me many times its value during the year." So writes a Glasgow chemist (212/38).

A subscriber (120/62) in Rhodesia writes on February 26, 1912: "Your paper keeps one up to date in matters pharmaceutical, and is much appreciated in out-of-the-way corners of the world like this. I am eighty miles from the railway, and my fixtures and stock took two months to come through by ox waggon."

Methylated Preparations.

Having read your two articles in the *C. & D.* for February 24 and March 16, I remonstrated with a traveller for having sold me some bay rum made with industrial spirit for use in making up the much-advertised prescription for "Lavonna de composée" and menthol crystals and bay rum. He says I am quite at liberty to use it for this purpose, but I think I am not. Who is right? Of course, it is hardly selling it under another name, because the customer knows the formula, which is usually put on the label, and perhaps it is thus regarded as selling it as bay rum.—*Ess.* (127/21).

[The traveller's statement is wrong, and he cannot have been aware of the fact that the Commissioners of Customs and Excise issued on March 7 a general order to their officers asking them to acquaint the Commissioners with such recommendations as the traveller has made to you, which recommendations are illegal and lay the recommenders and their agents open to prosecution and heavy fine. We again insert these facts, because of the comparative indifference with which some people appear to treat the Spirits Acts and regulations and orders issued thereunder.—*EDITOR, C. & D.*]

Legal Queries.

Consult "The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary," 1912, pp. 435 to 454, where most legal difficulties are anticipated, before writing about your difficulty.

Ajax (129/27).—You can obtain the forms necessary for the registration of a business as a private company from any law stationer, but, seeing that you have no experience of this subject, you should get someone to do the work for you. The transfer agents who advertise in the *C. & D.* undertake it. On page 456 of the *C. & D. Diary* you will find, under "Companies," the official fees payable in respect to registration.

Pinkie (125/39).—An ointment containing 1 part of red precipitate of mercury in 32 parts comes within Part II. of the Poisons Schedule. You, as a registered chemist, may sell this to anyone you please, provided that you label it with the name of the article, the word "Poison," and your name and address. Your name and address may be omitted when the sales are "by wholesale to retail dealers in the ordinary course of wholesale dealing." It is obvious, therefore, that you must confine your wholesaling to persons who may lawfully retail the ointment—unless you put your name and address on the boxes. If the persons to whom you sell are not chemists they cannot resell without infringing the Pharmacy Act.

Nesso (129/9).—The General Medical Council have on more than one occasion struck off the Dentists' Register the names of dentists who had advertised professionally, or whose names as dentists had been associated with a business which advertised. In the case which you submit to us we consider that it would be unwise of the registered dentist to patent a remedy for neuralgia, and afterwards, in partnership, to advertise that article. It is unwise to patent any remedy, because at the end of fourteen years it may be compounded and sold by anybody. Moreover, if it contain a scheduled poison, the Pharmaceutical Society may take action in the High Court to prevent letters patent being issued. There is no objection at all to the registered dentist entering into partnership with you for the sale of the remedy, but remaining a "dark horse."

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

"We do not as a rule repeat information which has been given in this section during the past twelve months, as it occupies space which can be more profitably utilised for other information. In such cases the numbers are mentioned, and if querists cannot refer to these they may obtain the numbers from the "C. & D." Office at the published prices, usually 6d.

"We do not undertake to analyse and report upon proprietary articles, and when samples are sent particulars should be supplied to us as to their origin, what they are, what they are used for and how.

A. F. (107/2).—MOUTH-WASH POWDER used for making a lotion for use after tooth-extraction.—This is apparently pulv. boracis, 5iss. of it being dissolved in half a pint of water for a mouth-wash.

Skate (110/4).—FISH-LIVER OILS.—Skate, ling, and haddock oils are used in the tanning industry as leather-dressings, in chamois-leather manufacture especially, the coarser grades being employed in the manufacture of tarpaulins and other oiled cloths. The oil known as "Coast" cod oil, made in

England, is a liver oil obtained from the livers of several fish, these including the ling, skate, and haddock. The principal markets for these oils are Hull, Newcastle, and Hamburg.

Norah (115/67).—ANTI-CURD MIXTURE FOR LAMES.—We presume that by "curd" you mean wool-balls, for which there is no cure, unless by cutting into the stomach and removing them. As a preventive, the wool in the region of the teats may be cut off so as to give free access. See that there is no irritation of the part. If there be, let the ewe be dipped. Give castor oil frequently, and a teaspoonful of glycerin and pepsin once daily.

Melco (113/70).—(1) CYCLE LUBRICATING OIL.—The following may be employed for both lubricating and burning:

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----|-----|----------|
| Mineral colza | ... | ... | 30 parts |
| Heavy paraffin oil (sp. gr. 0.840) | ... | ... | 20 parts |
| Arctic sperm oil | ... | ... | 30 parts |
| Castor oil | ... | ... | 20 parts |

Perfume with the following mixture in the proportion of 1½ to 2 oz. to 9 gals.:

| | | | |
|-----------------|-----|-----|---------|
| Lavender oil | ... | ... | 1 part |
| Citronella oil | ... | ... | 4 parts |
| Mirbane essence | ... | ... | 4 parts |
| Sassafras oil | ... | ... | 1 part |

(2) TOILET PARAFFIN for the hair is a thin white odourless heavy petroleum to which a small quantity of heliotropin, terpineol, or similar synthetic perfume has been added. Some sell it unperfumed and make a virtue of its freedom from odour, a recommendation which appeals especially to men.

J. S. M. (115/52).—WATERPROOFING.—The process employed for the modern waterproof garments is to spray them with a solution of paraffin wax in mineral naphtha, or else to place the cloth upon a web saturated with the solution and pass them together beneath rollers, when the cloth takes up sufficient wax to give it the rain-repellent property needed. Other methods are with alum and lead acetate (*C. & D.*, March 19, 1910, index folio 456), and the aluminium-acetate process employed by the French War Department (*C. & D.*, April 22, 1911, index folio 583).

H. H. R. (112/6).—TOOTH-PASTE EXCIPIENT.—The following are excipients commonly employed in making powders into tooth-pastes:

| 1. | | 2. | |
|--------------------|-------------|-----------|------------|
| Gelatin | ... 5iii. | Starch | ... 5ss. |
| Moist Castile soap | 5vj. | Water | ... 5ss. |
| Rectified spirit | ... 5ij. | Glycerin | ... 5viij. |
| Glycerin | ... 5xiiss. | Soft soap | ... 5j. |
| Water | ... 5xiiss. | | |

Soak the gelatin in half the water overnight, and the soap in the other half. Melt separately, mix and incorporate with the other ingredients.

Mix the starch with the water and glycerin, and heat until the starch tumefies, then add the soap.

The suitability of the excipient depends upon the composition of the powder to be employed.

C. D. (112/33).—CREAM-OF-TARTAR BAKING-POWDER:

| | | | |
|----------------------|-----|-----|---------|
| Sodium bicarbonate | ... | ... | 4 parts |
| Potassium bitartrate | ... | ... | 9 parts |
| Starch or flour | ... | ... | 7 parts |

Dry the ingredients separately, and mix.

Retrospect of Fifty Years Ago.

Reprinted from "The Chemist and Druggist," April 15, 1862.

Our Special Province.

As a rule, in our editorial capacity we eschew politics. We practically endorse the time-honoured proverb which insists upon "every cobbler sticking to his last." We are of opinion that by so doing we consult the interests of the trade we profess to represent. We are aware there is a tendency on the part of some class journals to depart from this regulation, and indeed we were much amused with a contemporary, whose columns are usually devoted to the most prosaic of all avocations, favouring its constituency with a leading article upon the forthcoming Handel Festival. We opine our readers would be somewhat astonished if we occupied our limited space with a critical disquisition upon the "Christy Minstrels" or an elaborate account of the marvellous exploits of the "Bounding Bricks of Babylon." Our especial province is business, and to business matters we generally restrict our comments.